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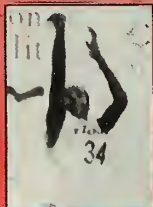
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Bush begins promoting his agenda

by Heather Lawson

For the first time in eight years, the United States has a newly elected president. The US has conducted its recounts, and finally, George W. Bush is officially beginning his presidential term, but how is that going to affect the nation?

Students of JJC have many different opinions of Bush. Some students think his ideas for the tax system are excellent, among many other goals he is trying to accomplish.

Other students, however, are nervous because they feel that he definitely should not have been elected president.

"We will not know who the right candidate is until 2004," said student Julie Foster. "There's a big difference between what they (politicians) say and what they do."

Some students are bothered by the fact that Bush always seemed to

shy away from the public eye during his campaign in 2000.

On television and in the newspapers, Bush managed to avoid answering questions. He spoke of the issues on his agenda, but he often had no comment on the other topics the public wanted to hear about.

"He didn't have any answers to the questions he was faced with," Foster said.

In the last few months, many Americans have been concerned with the way Bush will handle the economy.

In the last few months, many Americans have been concerned with the way Bush will handle the economy. However, many other Americans

are convinced that he will handle it efficiently.

When asked what she thinks of Bush's economic policies, freshman Heidi Garrett said, "Technically, Bush would be better than Al Gore for the economy because he wants to concentrate spending on the US rather than other countries."

In a seat nearby, student Janice Grant added to Garrett's comment, "But the president isn't all powerful and doesn't have complete control over the economy."

Other issues on Bush's agenda include education, gun control, immigration, and social security. Focus on issues like these may lead some people to believe that Bush just may have his act together.

As great as some people believe Bush's plan is appearing, it still isn't enough to impress some people.

"I just don't understand how a

person with a history of cocaine abuse and the stupidity to drive drunk could be elected as our president!" freshman Chrissy Kozol commented. "I don't care if he is supposedly reformed, the taint is still there!"

"We will not know who the right candidate is until 2004."
-JJC student Julie Foster

The true question is: Do students really have the right to complain about Bush as the new president? When asked if they voted in the election, only one out of five students said yes.

No matter how much anyone complains, it cannot be changed now. Bush remains the new president and his report card will come in four years.

JJC bookstore and Joliet Textbook battle it out

by Michelle Tarrant

Perhaps one of the biggest concerns for most college students is the cost and purchase of books. For most Joliet Junior College students, the book-buying task has been limited to the JJC bookstore.

Recently added directly across Hoboult Road from JJC, the Joliet Textbook Store has opened its doors to students looking for a good deal. In a recent venture, the staff of the

blazer decided to see what the new store had to offer in comparison to the JJC bookstore.

A few pros that the Joliet Textbook Store had to offer was the high abundance of used books over new books. Typically the JJC bookstore has a limited number of used books and runs out of them at a fast pace.

When comparing the most important detail of all, prices, Joliet Textbook had prices averaging \$2

cheaper than the JJC bookstore. Used books at the new store ran about \$4 less and new books about \$1-2 less than the JJC bookstore.

However when it comes to book buyback, JJC is the place to be. Even though lines can be long and the process can be slightly tedious, JJC's book buyback pays off in the long run. Offering around 50-70 percent back on books at JJC, Joliet Textbook on average offered between 20-40 percent back on books.

JJC also receives positive marks when it comes to offering loans for students at the college bookstore. JJC will give a student a \$200 credit to the bookstore and payment of the loan is a deferred process. The Joliet Textbook Store has no loans like the ones offered at JJC.

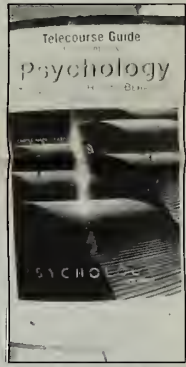
Both bookstores had helpful employees who were willing to help students looking for certain books. Both stores were also organized, clean and offered a warm and inviting atmosphere for prospective customers.

***Blazer report based on the sample purchase of several books from the JJC bookstore and Joliet Textbook Store**

CALCULUS Single Variable	NEW	USED
	91.50	69.40
CALCULUS Single Variable		
CALCULUS Single Variable		
CALCULUS Single Variable		
CALCULUS Single Variable		

Prices vary between new and used books at the JJC bookstore.

Photo by Michelle Tarrant



Students are faced with the price choice of selecting books at the store of each semester.

Photo by Michelle Tarrant

New self-defense class for women offered

by Kaylee Van Hoose

The Joliet Junior College Campus Police Department will be starting a self-defense course designed specifically for women called Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.O.) class. Officer Joseph Sikora and Officer Jennifer Irgoyen will instruct the three-day class totaling 12 hours.

R.A.D is the nation's largest self-defense course specifically designed for women only.

According to R.A.O pamphlets that are available on campus, it is the nation's largest self-defense course specifically designed for women only. It is taught at more than 300 colleges and universities, private, municipal, state and federal agencies with more than 2,800 certified instructors. Thousands of women have been taught this same course.

The R.A.D. approach to personal

safety education embodies a practical blend of threat avoidance strategies and real-world assault resistance techniques for women.

The focus of the R.A.D. course of instruction is on the development of easily mastered personal safety skills which can be safely practiced within a comfortable learning environment and the coupling of these physical skills with a threat assessment process which will increase physical safety awareness. The overall goal is to reduce victimization through informed decision making and sensible action.

Over three sessions, students will learn the definitions of rape, sexual assault, stalking, date rape and impaired consent through a manual. Students will also go over statistics about sexual assaults, both locally and nationally.

In addition, students will learn how to evaluate situations and make decisions based on those evaluations while learning safety tips.

Early on, students will learn easy,

natural and simple self-defense movements. After learning these movements, they are practiced in a variety of situations with other students. Students do not have to have any background in martial arts.

Most of the movements are things people usually do instinctively when attacked, only students will learn how to do them effectively.

According to Irgoyen, this class will be ongoing so females have many opportunities to join. Class dates and times will be announced in the near future.

Students will learn the definitions of rape, sexual assault, stalking, date rape and impaired consent.

For information and to register for classes, call (815) 280-2621 or email jsikora@jjc.cc.il.us or jirgo@jjc.cc.il.us.

What are your chances of being sexually assaulted?

1 out of 3 women can expect to be sexually assaulted in their lifetime
-A. Cohen, *Become Street Wise*, (1988).

The average rape lasts 2-4 hours
-A. Cohen, *Become Street Wise*, (1988).

1.3 women are raped each minute in the U.S.
-National Victims Center Report (1992).

1 out of every 4 college women
policed was sexually assaulted during four years at college

-N.A. Magazine, Study on Sexual Assault and Rape.

Parking garage could be a solution to traffic problems

Blazer Editorial

With the arrival of winter and a large dumping of snow just days before the start of another spring semester at Joliet Junior College, student parking was visually a nightmare.

It is expected that traffic snarls during the start of a new semester, the addition of snow and the subtraction of additional parking space hampered students trying to arrive to class on time.

We fully believe that the campus police do the best they can to make sure that parking mishaps and problems are few.

Every morning during the start of a new term, they are out in full force directing students to parking lots

before class, and directing them out after class.

Even though they try as hard as they can, there are still many flaws in the parking system, not attributable to the campus police.

There just is not enough room for students to park. And when the start of the new semester rolls around, parking woes are at their highest and the time it takes to find a parking spot increases as well.

JJC has an increasing number of students attending each semester, and although encouragement to attend classes at the other campuses besides Main have been evident, more students and more cars are likely to come in the future.

While surveying some construction in Joliet, a staff member at the Blazer noticed a new 5-level parking

garage being built in a cramped section of the downtown area.

Perhaps this can be a solution to the parking tribulations at JJC.

Surely this is a pricey venture, but in the future we think this structure could pay off. Maybe the garage could be built for staff and faculty, while the existing staff and faculty lots could be turned into student lots.

A parking garage wouldn't be an eyesore either if properly added onto one of Main Campus' existing buildings.

It's a simple suggestion that we think the school administration should look into. If a solution to parking ailments is on the horizon, hopefully students won't have to leave the house an hour early to find a good spot or to avoid messy traffic snarls while trying to get to class.



Cars bottle it out in the lot where parking is often not available.

Photo by Michelle Tarrant

Free agent signing creates a large shakeup in baseball

by Adam Satorius

Baseball season is just around the corner and this off-season has been one of the most active in recent memory. Some of the big names that switched teams include Alex Rodriguez, Manny Ramirez, Andres Galaraga, Mike Hampton, Juan Gonzalez, Ellis Burks and David Wells.

Rodriguez and Galaraga both signed with the Texas Rangers. Rodriguez for \$252 million over 10 years, easily the richest contract in baseball history.

Don't bet on the Rangers spending spree getting them to the playoffs, though. Their paper-thin pitching staff is among the worst in baseball.

The addition of Manny Ramirez makes the Boston Red Sox an early favorite to upset the New York Yankees in the AL East.

This gives the Rockies the ace they needed and will make them a team to deal with in the NL West.

Ramirez makes an already good team much better and possess the best pitcher in the big leagues in Pedro Martinez. Look for the Red Sox to make the playoffs this season, most likely as the AL Wild Card winner.

That is because the Yankees got even better this off-season. The three-time defending champions signed Baltimore ace Mike Mussina to a huge deal that puts him in a rotation that already includes Orlando Hernandez, Roger Clemens and Andy Pettitte.

Can anyone stop the Yankees?

Yes, probably either Cleveland or Boston conceivably could. Will any-

What about those White Sox? The luckiest team ever had several games last season where their pitchers gave up six or more runs while the defense was committing three or more errors in the field and they would still win.

one detail the Yankee Express? Probably not.

The Cleveland Indians did not win the AL Central title for the first time ever last season, succumbing to an upstart Chicago White Sox club that got every lucky break a team could get during the regular season.

Don't expect that to happen again. The Indians are locked and loaded and are ready to take back their throne, despite the heavy loss of Manny Ramirez to Boston. In his place comes former San Francisco Giants outfielder Ellis Burks, a very productive hitter with a strong throwing arm from right field.

Also to help carry the offensive load comes Juan Gonzalez from Detroit. Gonzalez spent most of last season battling nagging injuries, much like the Tribe's pitching staff. Look for him and the staff to rebound and reclaim the AL Central crown.

What about those White Sox?

Chicago is not as good as their record was last season. The luckiest team ever had several games last season where their pitchers gave up six or more runs while the defense was committing three or more errors in the field and they would still win. This year. The addition of David Wells does not make the Sox any better and it might actually take away some.

Wells did win 20 games last year but he had a horrible second half, he has a chronic bad back and he is going

to be 38 years old in May.

The rotation is shaky with young Jon Garland and young, erratic Kip Wells to go with Wells, Jim Parque and James Baldwin. Looks like a second-place finish and no playoffs for the Sox this year. Finally, there is Mike Hampton. It appeared as though he was going to sign with the Chicago Cubs or with St. Louis but at the last minute, he signed with the Colorado Rockies.

This gives the Rockies the ace they needed and will make them a

team to deal with in the NL West.

As a Cubs fan, it was disappointing to see Hampton sign with Colorado, but the Cubs improved, adding Bill Mueller, Jeff Fassero, Tom Gordon, Julian Tavarez, Ron Coomer, and Matt Stairs to the squad. Look for 85 wins from the Cubs this season and a third-place finish in the NL Central.

Training starts in February and opening day is April 2. If your team was lucky last year, it's a new year and anything can happen, at least that's what Sox fans like to think.

Question of the Issue

Do you feel that the JJC Centennial Celebration affects you as a student and do you feel that JJC has taken initiative to include students in the celebration?



"No, not at all. I'm pretty involved so I'm surprised I didn't know."
-Meghan Barney, freshman, 18



"I didn't even know that there was a Centennial Celebration."
-Derrick Trumbly, freshman, 19



"Students should be more involved in the Centennial, but they need to take initiative. It's great though. Being a part of the oldest junior college in the state is an honor. Being a part of the celebration is even better even though it's not hardly publicized."
-Reggie Denard, freshman, 23



"I'm aware because I'm in culinary arts. We have to give the chefs ideas for the dinner event. As a whole, it's kind of like, when and what is the centennial?"
-Desrae Vignall, sophomore, 20



"Yeah, I'm aware of it, but honestly I didn't know it was going on."
-Douglas Hawksworth, sophomore, 24



"I'm not worried about it at all. So, it doesn't affect me."
-Emily Hartline, sophomore, 21

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Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

Club seeks members



Katie Meskinen encourages students to sign up for the *Unstoppable Challengers Club* at JJC. The club features support for disabled students. Any student can join the new club which needs 10 members to officially become a JJC club. Leave contact info outside the mailbox at the Student Services office.

100 years of fashion

by Danielle Ostrowski

For most people fashion creates a part of who they are. Students may have thrown on those jeans this morning because they love the way they look, or for the way they feel, or perhaps for their mere originality. For whatever reason it may be, they put them on.

Here at JJC there are many students dedicated to creating new and amazing styles, students who want their ideas and creations to be seen and worn by others. JJC fashion classes are seeking volunteer models to help in this year's fashion show.

Here prospective students will have the opportunity to strut their stuff on the runway.

Auditions for the show are Feb. 1 from 3:30–5:30 p.m. in the theatre. Men and women are welcome,

Fashion Show
Auditions are Feb. 1
from 3:30–5:30 p.m.
in the Fine Arts
Theatre on Main
Campus. Men and
women of all ages and
sizes are welcome to
participate.

including children 10 years old and up.

Two perks about the auditions are the fact that no experience is needed and every size is welcome! So giddy up... see if you have what it takes to have a good time.

College bowl team places first

The Joliet Junior College College Bowl team won first place in the College Bowl Fall tournament for the South Suburban Region.

The JJC team beat Prairie State in one round and Moraine Valley in two to take the victory. JJC overcame Moraine Valley in the final match 215-30.

Members of the JJC winning team include
Chris Prola, Robert
Clack, Jeff O'Malley
and Jeff Cousteau.

The team is advised and trained by Bill Yarrow, JJC English/Foreign Language faculty.

For more information on the college bowl tournament or how to become a member of the team, please contact Yarrow via e-mail at byarrow@jjc.cc.il.us.

JJC team sets new lego record

At JJC Legos aren't just a toy used for building an imaginary town or to stimulate a child's mind during recess.

A Lego contest held at JJC combines the little bricks with a small microprocessor, a Hitachi H8 and students from a Joliet Junior College. The EET 114 Digital Electronics class uses these devices to build single sensor robots.

The students were divided into teams and were asked to build and

program a robot to complete one lap around the "Binary 500 Brickyard."

These line-following robots competed during the week of Jan 17 to see which robot could complete the lap the fastest.

During the contest a new record for the fastest lap around the track was set by a team of three Joliet Junior College students.

The Binary 500 winning team completed the 104-inch track in 5.91 seconds (a new record for the course).

Members of the winning team were Todd Thode, Ed Kucinic and Rashad Stirling.

The second place team members consisted of Brandon Wells and Nick McAndrew who completed the course in 6.41 seconds.

Third place awards went to Shawn Shegog and Kevin Hoy who completed the course in 6.51 seconds.

The contest had fourteen teams competing for the top spots throughout the weeklong competition.

Do you have any questions, comments or suggestions you would like the staff of *The Blazer* to know about? We'd like to hear what our peers have to say. E-mail us at Blazer@jjc.cc.il.us or visit our office located on the Bridge. It's your school, it's your voice.

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Want a little extra cash and experience? Are you a full-time student? Are you reading this? *The Blazer* is in need of a PHOTO EDITOR for the Spring 2001 semester. E-mail contact information and experience to the Blazer@jjc.cc.il.us.

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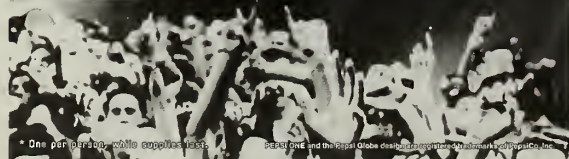
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Stop by our office on the Bridge or e-mail us at Blazer@jjc.cc.il.us.

Satellite radio likely to change the way music is heard

by Ashley Bennett

With today's technology boom, there is a new concept that will improve and change the way people listen to the radio.

This will allow listeners more variety, freedom, better sound quality and fewer commercials. Satellite radio will be providing 100 channels for all ages including music, entertainment, sports, news and weather.

Currently, XM and Sirius are the only two companies that are licensed by the United States Federal Communications Commission to offer satellite radio. These two services will be widely available by mid-2001 except in Alaska, Hawaii and outside the United States.

They will be accessible at thou-

sands of consumer electronics, auto accessory and other retail stores, on the Internet and at automobile dealerships.

Satellite radio allows listeners more variety, freedom, better sound quality and fewer commercials.

"I think that satellite radios are a good idea if they were reasonably priced," JJC sophomore, Amie Marizza stated. So how much do they cost?

A recent Herald News article

states that each radio service would cost \$395 a month. Consumers will also have to pay an extra several hundred dollars for adapters or special car radios that would be able to receive satellite broadcast along with their original AM and FM stations.

The Herald News also reports that XM's Washington, D.C. facility contains more than 80 'digital' studios to create content for the channels. These rooms will soon have on-air personalities and programmers assembling 24 hours of music and entertainment.

With regular radio stations, the radio signals begin to fade 30 miles away from their source. With the new satellite radios, consumers can drive coast-to-coast without ever having to

change channels.

"Satellite radios would come in handy on cross-country trips," said JJC sophomore Jen Schild. "You would not have to fool around with the radio and could avoid car accidents."

"Satellite radios would come in handy on cross-country trips." -JJC sophomore Jen Schild on the benefit of this new wave of technology.

According to XM, they have created the world's largest network of

1500 radio broadcast repeaters.

They will supplement satellite coverage in urban areas where tall buildings and other obstructions might interfere with satellite radio reception. The satellite signal will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

New York based Sirius Satellite Radio said that in a standard radio station, there are usually 18 minutes of commercials each hour.

With the satellite radios, advertising time will be cut more than half. They believe this is a major advantage for consumers.

For more information, check out these two websites: www.xmradio.com and www.cdradio.com

News briefs

GAVC is able to move into the Child Development program at JJC

JJC, the Grundy Area Vocational Center and the Wilco Career Center officially entered into a dual-credit agreement on Jan. 16.

The agreement creates a process by which students completing the childcare curriculum at Wilco or JJC, the Grundy Area Vocational Center and the Wilco Career Center officially entered into a dual-credit agreement on Jan. 16.

The agreement also allows students who are in a childcare curriculum at Wilco or GAVC to be able to move into the Child Development program at JJC.

"The dual-credit agreement will foster and promote continued communication between the vocational career centers and JJC in order to develop and perfect continued opportunities for the smooth transition of students to Joliet Junior College," said Dr. Denis Wright, JJC Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Students who complete both years of the child care curriculum with final course grades of B or better will receive three credit hours of child development electives when they move on to JJC.

This allows Wilco and Grundy students to be three credits ahead in the child development electives area of the 64-credit-hour program required for an associate's degree.

Students will produce documentation of successful completion of the childcare program at Wilco or Grundy in order to receive credit.

JJC hosts empowerment conference

Joliet Junior College's Women's College, Institute of Economic Technology and the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department are sponsoring the Empowerment 2001 Conference on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the City Center Campus.

The conference begins at 8 a.m. with registration, a continental breakfast and networking. Guest speakers include Shan Atkins, Executive Vice President for Strategic Initiatives,

Sean Roebuck & Co., and Detective Michael Sullivan, Naperville Police Department Investigator in Computer Crimes Unit.

Breakout sessions include Media Images of Women, Women in Leadership, Women in Diversity and Economic Empowerment.

The JJC Culinary Arts students will prepare lunch. The event will conclude from 2-3 p.m. with networking, resources and display booths.

The fee is \$75 and registration is required. Current JJC students and staff may attend for only \$15. To register, call (815) 280-1555. For more information, call Pam Condon at (815) 280-2287.

Fly fishing course offered at JJC

JJC is offering fly fishing instruction throughout the spring semester. Classes will meet on the Main Campus on Saturdays from Feb. 24-May 5. Times are flexible and arranged by the instructor with students.

Classes include individual levels, individualized beginning fly fishing for two, and intermediate fly fishing. To register, call (815) 744-2200.

Students encouraged to seek assistance



An unknown JJC student attempts to retrieve a stuck bag of chips from vending machines located in the concourse on the Main Campus. Students are encouraged not to "attack" the machines, and instead find a member of the custodial staff to assist in their pursuit of a snack.

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Cosmetic surgery fad gaining popularity amongst teens

by Danae Billings

Featured in full-page ads in many national women's magazines are beautiful young women. But they are not like many of the girls that walk the halls of Junior College. The young women in the magazines are advertising breast implants and cosmetic surgery to people of all races and age categories while they appear to be having the time of their lives.

As a result of these ads, cosmetic surgery is at an all time high. According to VH1, there was a 56 percent increase in the number of plastic surgeries performed in 1999 from 1998. An article written by Diana Zuckerman, executive director of the National Center for Policy Research for Women and Families, reported 150,000 women received breast implants in 1998. The American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons include liposuctions, breast augmentations, face-lifts, nose jobs and tummy tucks as types of cosmetic surgeries.

Teens are being sucked into the cosmetic surgery fad. According to www.discovermaha.com, about 3,519 teens had a nose job, while 3,024 had their ears pinned in 1992. Breast implants are attracting teenagers like never before. They have reportedly even appeared on teen

girls' Christmas and birthday lists.

The most publicized case is that of Jenna Franklin, a 15-year-old British teen whose parents have agreed to pay for breast enlargements as a present when she turns 16 years old. She has expressed what many people believe to be a huge problem in today's society.

The most publicized case is that of Jenna Franklin, a 15-year-old British teen whose parents have agreed to pay for breast implants when she turns 16.

"Every other person you see on television has had implants," she wrote. "If I want to be successful I need to have them too- and I do want to be successful, though I don't know at what the moment."

Jenna's parents, Martin and Kay Franklin, have defended their daughter's decision. They believe that larger breasts would help to boost her confidence.

This issue has sparked a debate from talk shows to radio shows to conversations in the hallways and the cyber cafe. The most common questions that are raised in these discussions include those about the right age, what factors people use when

making the decision to have the surgeries and what dangers are involved when going "under the knife."

Many students at JJC think that Jenna Franklin is way too young for cosmetic surgery.

Carrie Vrieze, a JJC student, stated that an acceptable age to consider plastic surgery would be 19 or 20, while two other students, Scott Hopkins and Mike Morris, agreed on 21.

Dr. Anthony Erian, the Franklin's doctor of choice, told the British Broadcasting Corp. that Jenna is too young and her breasts are not fully developed. He stated, "If Jenna's breasts don't grow larger by age 18 or 19, then we can think about it."

The advice of the British Association of Plastic Surgeons is usually for women to wait until 18 before receiving breast implants because their bodies are not yet fully developed. A recent recipient of implants, Cindy Jackson, says that women do not finish developing until they are at least 21, while some girls don't get fully developed breasts until their mid-20s.

Another question brought up by the issue is why do people feel the need to get cosmetic surgery? A 1997 survey done by the American Association of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery outlined the

reasons men and women have plastic surgery. Forty-four percent of the men surveyed and 56 percent of the women said they had plastic surgery to look younger, while 23 percent of the men and 22 percent of the women said it was to improve their overall looks.

None of the men said they had the surgeries for a self-esteem problem, while 27 percent of the women said they did. Another reason that was given was to look prettier or younger for work. That got a response from 33 percent of the men and none of the women.

"Girls today see what is in the public eye, and assume that that is what is expected."
-JJC student Brad Waller.

Wendy Chapkins is a feminist theorist. She stated, "The body beautiful is women's responsibility and authority. She will be valued and rewarded on the basis of how close she comes to embodying the ideal."

The ideal female is considered by many today to be tall and slim with Anglo-Saxon features, or the people seen on television. Vrieze says, "When you're a teenager, you want to look like the stars; Britney and Christina."

"Girls today see what is in the

public eye, and assume that is what is expected," stated a JJC student, Brad Waller. "So, they put pressure on themselves to achieve that look, without asking anyone or having been told really that's what a real woman is supposed to look like."

Hopkins said, "They (women) are all trying too hard to be something they're not."

While cosmetic surgery is growing in popularity by leaps and bounds, the dangers of the procedures are not often publicized. Some dangers include, painful skin burns, scarring that causes disfigurements, breasts that are as hard as rocks, excruciating pain, serious infections, and ultimately death.

The Secretary of the Florida Department of Health, James T. Howell, said, "This is a very dangerous situation, and there have to be major changes."

According to www.sunnied.com, 34 people died in Florida since 1986 as a result of cosmetic surgeries, and there have been over 1,100 reports of injuries since 1980.

While many people in today's society see what the media and in Hollywood, and think that they need to look like that in order to live a successful life, there are still people who believe that it is more than appearance that matters.

Ideas for Valentines sweethearts

by Michelle Tarrant

It's that time of the year when that special person in your life will drop large hints that a very important holiday is coming up. No, it's not an anniversary. And it can't be their birthday already. Yes, it's Valentines Day. The day a person can not forget if they are in a relationship, because if they do, chances are they won't be in a relationship anymore.

Where did this lovers day get it's start? Shockingly enough, it is NOT a Hallmark holiday. According to be a portion of the History Channel's website dedicated to this "lovely" day, legend says it all started with a man named Saint Valentine.

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl who may have been his jailor's daughter who visited him during his confinement.

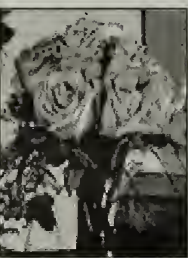
Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories certainly emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic



and a romantic figure.

Around 498 A.D., Pope Gelasius declared February 14 St. Valentine's Day. During the Middle Ages, it was commonly believed in France and England that February 14 was the beginning of birds' mating season, which added to the idea that the middle of February, Valentine's Day, should be a day for romance.

According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion Valentine cards are sent each year,



making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year.

If you are looking to entertain that special someone for the holiday, the JJC Renaissance Center has planned a jazz band banquet Feb. 11 in honor of Valentine's Day. Tickets can be purchased for \$20 per person, and entertainment includes the Esquire Jazz Club, cash bar and appetizers. For ticket information call 815-722-1922.

Calendar of Events for Feb.

The JJC Renaissance Center is having a Valentine's Day Jazz Band Banquet Feb. 11 from 4-8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person and include cash bar and appetizers. For information call ext. 1404.

The JJC Chess Club will be meeting in the JJC Cafeteria Thursdays from 5-9:30 p.m. All students, faculty and staff are welcome. Grand Master Chess simultaneous exhibition event coming soon. For information call ext. 1513.

The JJC Spring Fashion Show, "100 Years of Fashion," is scheduled for April 27 at 12 noon and 7 p.m. Auditions for the show are currently being held as well. For more information

on the event or to register to participate call ext. 2277.

The JJC Department of Computer Information and Office Systems is announcing its Centennial Web Design Competition.

This is a great opportunity to design and create an Internet web site. First Place winner receives \$300 tuition voucher or \$200 in cash. Second and third place awards are available also. For information contact Ram Raghuraman at ext. 2658.

The JJC Herbert Trackman Planetarium has scheduled several star shows for February. "Solar System Stake-Out" will be shown Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m., "Starlight" will

be shown Feb. 6 at 7:30 p.m. and "Solar System Spectacular" will be shown Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m. For information on the shows call 815-280-NOVA.

The Brown Bag Lecture Series kicks off the New Year with "How One Person Can Make a Difference" lecture on Feb. 5 at 12 noon in J-0006. Russ Corey is giving the presentation.

Employment 2001 conference will be held Feb. 13 at the City Center Campus from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Registration is required for the event. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Price is \$75 per person. For information or to register for the event please call 815-280-1555.

JJC's 2001 calendar of college visits

- Feb. 6 University of St. Francis Nursing
- Feb. 14 University of Illinois-Chicago
- Feb. 15 University of St. Francis
- Feb. 15 Benedictine University
- Feb. 20 Southern Illinois University
- Feb. 20 Elmhurst College Bridge
- Feb. 22 University of Illinois-Chicago
- Feb. 22 University of St. Francis
- Feb. 22 Robert Morris College
- Feb. 27 University of St. Francis
- Mar. 1 Benedictine University
- Mar. 5 University of St. Francis
- Mar. 15 University of St. Francis
- Mar. 19 Elmhurst College
- Mar. 20 University of Illinois-Chicago
- Mar. 20 University of St. Francis
- Mar. 20 Robert Morris College
- Mar. 26 Benedictine University
- Mar. 27 University of St. Francis
- Mar. 29 Southern Illinois University
- Apr. 2 University of St. Francis Nursing
- Apr. 9 Elmhurst College
- Apr. 11 University of Illinois-Chicago
- Apr. 25 Robert Morris College
- Apr. 26 University of St. Francis

Art gallery hosted first JJC/GSU student group exhibition

The JJC/GSU Connection Art Exhibit was recently on display in the Laura Sprague Art Exhibit.

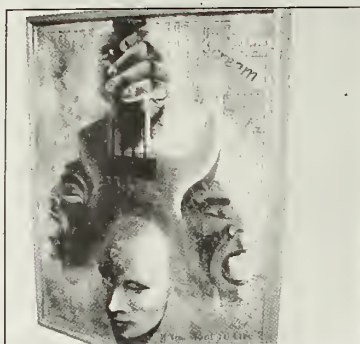
The special exhibition, which ended Jan. 26, featured five JJC Art Alumni who have recently completed undergraduate degrees in Art at Governors State University.

The featured artists in the exhibit were Carol Chirafisi, Daniel Laid, Brian Likovic, Jennifer Richmond and Louis Shields.

"Over a period of time the students completed their undergraduate work. [The display allows] them to come back to let people see their work," said art teacher and Gallery director Joe Milosovich.

This was the first time a joint JJC/GSU group student work was put on display.

The exhibit features the work of five JJC alumni who have recently completed undergraduate degrees at GSU.



Pictures from the exhibition are of Brian Likovic's mixed media on canvas, "Heavy Metal" and "Primal Scream".

Photos by Michelle Tarrant

Dave Matthews rocks Chicago in Dec.

by Kaylee Van Hoose

Before I saw Dave Matthews Band at Soldier Field on June 30, I never in fact "loved" the band or was "infatuated" with the music like many other fans. I just thought...yeah, they're all right, but didn't really pay attention because EVERYONE loves Dave and I wasn't about to LOVE Dave too because everyone else did. Little did I know that June 30 would turn me into one of those screaming fans.

Chicago fans were overjoyed when tickets went on sale for Dave's winter tour for two concerts at the formerly known Resonant Horizon, Allstate Arena.

My three friends and I got decent tickets for the first show on Monday, Dec. 4, although we lost our second party somewhere by the tolls and never did find them again!

We probably should have spent that extra time of the opening band trying to hunt down our second party, but no... we sat through the WHOLE ENTIRE opening band which I can't even pronounce or remember the name.

I'm a great fan of many different kinds of music, but this just really killed me. Fans behind me were

screaming every time a song was over because they thought she and her dancing back up singers were finally going to leave the stage.



Photo courtesy of

www.davemattthewsband.com

Three times she tricked the crowd by coming back out and repeating a song. People who get tickets for the second show definitely knew not to come until 8:15 or so.

Also, I have this habit of getting seats surrounded by rather odd people.

For example, my first Dave concert, there was a girl in front of us who actually "urinated" on her seat in the row in front of us. At Anger

Management Tour, there was an old guy singing "Rollin'" during Eminem. Oh, and let's not forget the drunk guy free-falling on me at Twisted 7.

So, at the winter tour, my group was completely entertained with all the 15-year old alcoholics in the crowd, including a boy sitting behind us who should have been "worshipping the porcelain horse" but instead was worshipping the seats in front of him. Needless to say, the cops dragged him out when his concerned teenybopper friends turned him in. The concert opened up with one of my favorite songs of all time, "The Stone." This is such an awesome song, yet the sound system really wasn't that great.

It was hard to hear Dave himself and the music sounded somewhat fuzzy. Before and after each song, Dave would comment about Chicago, although no one clearly understood what he said yet still screamed their heads off when he opened his mouth.

To my surprise, during much of the concert, many fans enjoyed the concert through the comfort of their seats: not a lot of dancing, not too much energy, which was disappointing. DMB on the other hand where always dancing around the stage and making sure that every seat in the

house could see them. Dave continued with songs like "So Much to Say," "Jimi Thing," "JTR" and "True Reflections" sung by Boyd including new hits. I was also extremely pleasantly surprised when the band played the hits #41, Halloween and concluding with Two Step. Many fans were disappointed that the band did not play "Christmas Song" since it was the Winter Tour.

Overall, the concert was pretty good although not as wonderful as the Summer Tour. The sound and the energy on the part of the fans contributed to the downfall. Does this mean that I'll never go to a Dave concert again? Of course not.

DAVE MATTHEWS BAND December 4, 2000

The Stone
Best of Whats Around
So Much to Say
Jimi Thing
Granny
JTR
Song That Jane Likes
True Reflections
Rhyme & Reasons
#41
Cortez The Killer
Grey Street
Watchtower
Halloween
Two Step

Horoscopes

By: Matt Packard

Aries:

Just think: This semester will still be going when it gets warm out again. This could mean spring will be here before you know it. But, it probably means you've got a long semester ahead of you.

Taurus:

So what if the people you graduated high school with are graduation college, getting married, and finding their substantial places in the world? They'll never get to wake up to your mom's awesome pancakes!

Gemini:

Scorpio's dad can take your dad any day.

Cancer:

Life is a highway. Expect delays on the inbound tri-state, and the westbound junction will cost you about 25.

Leo:

He should've known you were going to cheat on him. I mean, look at you! And it's not like you actually said the words, "I will not cheat on you."

Virgo:

Dude, just stick the camera in that pile of clothes. Nah, she'll never see it. Just remember to put some tape over that little red light.

Libra:

The only one who could ever reach you was the son of a preacher man, and on a few impulsive occasions, the preacher man.

Scorpio:

You will waste your week trying to figure out if Ferris really could've done all that stuff in one school day. You will conclude: Man, there's just no way!

Sagittarius:

You will protest: The school's handbook reads that you cannot walk around touching other people.

Capricorn:

Your music career will face a setback as you discover that someone is already using the name Ricky Martin.

Aquarius:

You are bright, cheerful, warm and energetic. Yes, you'll make a fine Wal-Mart greeter.

Pisces:

You will end all of your conversations this week with "Sorry I bothered you."



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Ken Burns' series on Jazz was good enough for me

by Matt Furlane



For a long time growing up I heard not to nothing about Jazz. I listened to a lot of other styles but Jazz seemed to me to be something for old African Americans and music students who, I thought, were probably forced to learn it.

I remained ignorant of jazz, the only American created artform, and its variations until several years ago when I ran into a trumpet player who started dropping names like John Coltrane, Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, and Thelonious Monk. To which I responded, "Who?"

I had no idea what they did so I began my journey to explore the world of jazz. I bought some CD's and read a little bit, but wasn't able to really dig into the history until a few weeks ago when PBS began airing its 10 part series on Jazz (Officially ending Jan. 31).

It was created by Ken Burns, who produced the award-winning documentaries on baseball and the Civil War.

The idea for the documentary was first put forth by trumpet player Wynton Marsalis in 1991 when he asked Burns to do a film about jazz at an awards dinner at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Burns accepted and began his own personal journey in trying to appreciate the art form. He apparently has found something he likes.

"I think jazz has been crowded out to some extent by these other pop forms which are all outgrowths of jazz music," said Burns in an NBC interview.

"Rhythm and Blues, Hip Hop, Rap, Soul and Rock and Roll are all outgrowths of jazz, and they are all

the end result of the same thing. We tend to be a fast food nation. But if you want something sumptuous and elegant then jazz is it."

The entire documentary took six

years to complete. It used 2,400 still photographs and 2,000 archival film clips.

Throughout contemporaries are interviewed, including Wynton Marsalis, who talks about jazz and how it evolved, frequently giving the viewers live examples of how a particular piece was played.

Additionally, Burns sometimes

treats the viewer to an entire composition like Louis Armstrong's 1928 "West End Blues."

The first episode of the series

called "Gumbo" helps define what jazz is by showing us where it all began - New Orleans. There, African American musicians and Creoles created the new kind of music from ragtime, blues, brass bands, spirituals, Caribbean rhythms and European concert music.



"It is America's music, born out of a million American negotiations, between having and not having, between happy and sad, country and city, between black and white," declares Burns states through the series narrator.

"And men and women, between the old Africa and the old Europe. It could of only have happened in an entirely new world."

Although it has been criticized in the media by various jazz "experts" who felt the series lacked direction and failed to cover everything adequately (I guess 18 hours was, I naively, I can't think of a quicker way to start learning about jazz then this documentary).

I'll still listen to other musical forms but after watching this series I'll give more time to jazz.

Common, Gay Dad and Dee Carstensen

CD Ratings
 ***** - Excellent
 ***** - Great
 *** - Good Tunes
 ** - Not worth the \$15
 * - Not worth the wax

by Matt Packard

As with the beginning of every year, the music industry's holiday blitz has left January with no notable releases. So, I would like to look back on not-so-recent releases that I just got around to picking up.

Common/ Like Water For Chocolate

***1/2

There is a movement gathering momentum in the hip hop community. I don't recall exactly when it started, but it's a virtuous and evolution pouring out of so many successful hip hop artists.

As MTV pushes homebased and bland rap videos, Common has had a hand in bringing a blend of hip hop, modern R&B and soul music in vogue.

He collaborates with another man partly responsible for this raising of the bar on "Ghetto Heaven Pt. 2." Here, he and D'Angelo exchange intelligent rhythms and smooth vocals in front of a perfect musical backdrop.

Common has had a hand in bringing a blend of hip-hop, modern R&B and soul music in vogue.

Even the film moments like "The Questions" are musically sound and stimulating.

Common even provides musical candlelight on "The Light." Again, the lyrics are smart, and this might be one of the most romantic hip hop

events committed to record in a long time. The quality never shifts.

This entire album is (damn I say) essential to any serious hip hop collection, as it should be reflected upon as a turning point.

Hopefully, other talented emcees will take notes and leave over-manufactured beats, mindless rhymes, and cheesy hooks in the 90's where they belong.

Gay Dad/ Leisure Noise

This is the album you insert between Travis and Radiohead in your cd tower.

It opens with the hovering and glowing "Olmstead" and establishes a familiar, yet intriguing English sound.

This record is so well mixed by Gary Langan that it even sounds.

The aptly titled "Joy" follows with a bounce bassline, a truly uplifting beat, and a perfect closing chant. As they work through spirited material, such as "To Earth With Love," Gay Dad employs a careful assortment of sound effects and accessories that add energy without confusing the direction of the music.

This record is so well mixed by Gary Langan that it even sounds good in MTV car. I've had a number of passengers and guest inquiries, "Man, who is this?" The mellow, emoting pieces and the enthusiastic fireballs immediately connect with anyone who enjoys this style of atmospheric, semi-artistic rock.

If this is typical of the bands sneaking around clubs overseas, then we have even more cause for envy. Have you ever heard a song for

Dee Carstensen/

The Map

****1/2

the first time and swear that you had heard it somewhere before? This is a collection of those songs.

To my modest knowledge, none of these songs were hit singles when the album was released (two years ago) but they all have that potential.

If "Come Down in Time" sounds like an Elton John B-side, it's because Elton had a hand in writing it. Other songs boast an similarly safe and euphoric potent presentation. Ooe's destiny is that of a singer/song-writer chick.

While she is a few fathoms short of Atlantis Morrison and a few not-so-hotly away from Behr Hart, Dee is

If you enjoy that brand of catchy and wholehearted music, this is about the best album you can buy.

a strong singer and does what she does very well.

The title track is a song that you fall in love with (and with). "Farewell, With Love" is a terrible haunting, tragic and inspiring simultaneously.

The entire album (most notably "Saviour") plays if it was recorded directly from any given hour of any adult contemporary radio station.

If you enjoy that brand of courtously catchy and wholehearted music, this is about the best album you can buy.

Matt Packard denounces: Do you have a local album that you'd like reviewed? Would you like to tell me that I don't have any idea what I'm talking about? E-mail me at GNIKINRAT1@aol.com. Thanks and I better hear from you.

Q101's Twisted 7 fed the hunger for all salivating fans

by Michelle Tarrant

The United Center was packed while every 12-16-year-old did their best to shake off their parents for the eight-hour concert that rocked the west side of the city on Dec. 9.

Opening was Chicago's very own, OUSTIBURED, who haven't played a show in their hometown in months.

Playing a select number of hits, they were a good choice to open up the long show, and they did a good job of not boring the crowd right away.

Everlast began and followed through with a successful set of mellow, unplugged music. Songs like "Ends" and "What it's Like" swayed across a sea of Q-Kids.

Also, thanks to them, there were a surprising number of people at the venue on time.

Ozzy was the next band to hit the stage after entertainment from Q101's Nansow TV show with Tund getting hauled across a lake on a tiny inner tube at 115 miles an hour.

Ozzy seemed prepared to make the crowd "get the **** UP" yet, dur-

ing their opening song, "Candyass," microphones weren't working and the whole set was extremely statically sounding from beginning to end. TIP: Turn the bass up.

No one could even hear lead singer Jay Gordon or drummer Bobby Hewitt above the screaming guitars.

When we all got our hearing back, Everlast began and followed through a successful set of mellow, unplugged music. Songs like, "Ends" and "What it's Like" swayed across the Q-Kids with ease and a great flow.

With people's butt grooves beginning to mold into their chairs, OUTFONDS did little to get this downtown crowd up out of their seats.

Their set was typical, but still done nicely for this band that has been criticized for bad performances at live shows.

After three hours of mediocre performances, a band probably recognized more by the majority of the young crowd hit the stage. LIVE left no one sitting in their seats and formerly hairless lead singer Ed Kowalczyk shocked many fans with his new fuzzy beard.

During Lightning Crashes, flickering lights could be seen across the venue with everyone singing along at the top of their lungs.

A great performance was handed out by Live and, pardon the pun, but

there best work is always done "live" in front of the crowd that cherishes the decade old band.

As a band that most people over 18 were excited about seeing was INCUBUS.

Live left no one sitting in their seats and formerly hairless lead singer Ed Kowalczyk shocked many fans with his new fuzzy beard.

You could tell that lead singer Brandon Boyd really enjoyed playing for this crowd and his stage presence was extraordinarily sweet.

Discarding his shirt after only one song, a topless Boyd continued to induce the audience with their folk-metal sounding lyrics and melodies for about an hour.

At this point in the show, most attendees looked to be a bit tired and run down, but when PAPA RADACH hit the stage, they made sure no one was having a bad time. RADACH not on stage with hard ass riffs and big ass sound, PAPA RADACH grabbed hold on the audience and failed to ever let go.

Colo Dick was on vocals and almost started a rush to the stage when he climbed his way into the audience

and continued to sing and scream his little heart out.

Closing with "Last Resort," their latest hit thus far in the decade, sudden riffs came, they left kids craving more and salvaging for more hard rocking sets.

Known for their weed smoking and cult-like following of music and mysticism, CYPRESS HILL brought their new taste of perfectly blended metal and rap.

Increasing the noise after singing his like "I Want To Get High" and "Incense in the Membrane," CYPRESS easily jumped up and made fists pump into the smoke filled air.

Leading into their most recent hit "ROCK SUPERSTAR," lead singer B-Rock said "don't be surprised if I join a group of my friends and help them out with a recent problem they've been having."

Of course, he is talking about the recent departure of Adam De LaTocha from Rage Against the Machine.

After their performance, he reminded the audience that if he did decide to take over LaTocha's spot in the politically driven band, he'd not fret that CYPRESS HILL would fall apart as well.

After about eight hours of sitting, standing, jumping, slamming and moshing, THE DFFSPRING played ALL their hits with all might and roar.

They blasted out "Come Out and Play," "Staring at the Sun," "Pretty Fly for a White Guy," "She's got Issues" and "Why Don't You Get a Job?"

During the middle of the set, the band traditionally takes a break, The Offspring Way.

After about 8 hours of sitting, standing, jumping, slamming and moshing, The Offspring played all their hits with all their might and roar.

A man even more plump than Turd a dose himself in a g-string. Speeds while encouraging the audience to sway their arms back and forth to music that is quite similar to Herb Albert and the Tijuana Brass Band.

The fat man with a giant wedge then tosses candies and treats out into the audience for the kiddies to snack on.

After suggesting that they play Greatest Dead 13 in the morning, Dfpring closed with Self-Esteem and left a once hungry Twisted 7 audience gorged out on rock, anger, happiness, rage and pure satisfaction.

JJC judo instructor brings life experience and wisdom to martial art.

by Tony Ciampa

In seeing Greg Tilos teach judo at JJC, on-lookers can see first hand why this man was inducted into the Martial Arts Hall of Fame on Aug. 12 of last year.

At seventy-one-years-old, he poses more of a threat than a three hundred pound defensive end does to quarterback. Learning about this ninth-degree black belt and his life in martial arts makes the teacher of judo classes at JJC look like an action hero.

Whenever anyone speaks of martial arts our initial reaction is to immediately turn to what we have learned from the movies.

The high-flying Bruce Lee in "Enter the Dragon," Steven Seagal demolishing three hundred bad guys on a boat in a matter of seconds: Attack! Attack! Attack!

This is not true of all martial arts. In all Judo, which is a form of jujitsu, means "the gentle way." In judo, the methods are used to turn an opponent's strengths against one's self.

"You do not apply a style," said Tilos. "If someone chokes you, any judo move will apply to the attack. All moves apply to any move brought against you."

Tilos first became interested in judo during World War II when a Japanese officer took a liking to him and began to teach him the style of fighting.

The art became a life-long obsession that led to numerous awards and



Greg Tilos proudly displays one of his many award plaques.

rising in belts. In 1979, Tilos received his ninth-degree black belt only after proving himself worthy.

"Getting a ninth-degree black belt is quite tough. To get the belt you must fight nine different martial artists of different styles at the same time. They circle you, and then each one attacks and you must defend against them," said Tilos. "Only a handful of people become ninth-degree black belts."

By 1982, Tilos found new problems in his homeland, the Philippines. Being an ex-classmate of the assassi-

nated ex-president of the Philippines, the new president, Marcos, saw Tilos as a threat to his rule. Marcos was better known for his wife who owned the largest collection of shoes in the world than for his brutal rule. The martial law of this new president was intruding on Tilos life because of a childhood friendship with the ex-president.

"I only knew the man in elementary school because we had class together," said Tilos.

He first learned of the soon to be attempt on his life through friends that

worked within the local government. With some persuasion of local authorities, he received a passport and prepared for a new life away from his homeland.

Scared of impending doom creeping closer, he fled to the U.S. Once getting to the U.S., he discovered that while on the plane the police had raided his apartment in an attempt to capture him.

"I wasn't afraid of being caught," said Tilos. "I would have done what any man would have done. I would have gotten a lawyer and hoped for

the best."

He had come to the states with \$3000 and no job. After a year of traveling and jumping from job to job, he came to JJC and began teaching judo and engineering.

In the years since Tilos began teaching martial arts, three people have become black belts in judo through JJC. He emphasizes how judo is a good lifetime fitness program and anyone can learn judo because it uses techniques and follows the student's natural ability. You use this first-hand when Tilos takes on students three times younger than him. His moves are graceful and his sense of balance shows why he stresses technique as the main point in the classes. One of the more interesting things in the sparing sessions between the students is that if a student of lower belt degree is higher belt is suppose to submit. This allows for a feeling of accomplishment in the class.

Scot Martin, a student of Tilos said, "I couldn't ask for anyone from a teacher. He allows a good environment for teaching."

Learning the secrets of judo is shown by the accomplishments of the students in his classes.

On average, the students of judo at JJC have taken home twenty trophies a year since Tilos began teaching the classes in 1983.

The classes are taught at JJC on Mon. and Wed. evenings from 9-11 p.m.

Athlete of the Issue: Ford

by Lorraine Guerrero

Joliet Junior College sophomore basketball player, Marcus Ford, also known as "Sky Walker," used to watch the guys in the neighborhood playing basketball while yearning to play himself. Instead of allowing him to play they would tell him, "you're too small and you play soft."

Ford refused to give up though. He had the ambition to learn and develop the skills.

So, when the basketball court was free, Ford's stepfather, Jesse McCormick, taught him the basics. Ford gives him the credit for establishing a base from which he is now flourishing.

Since Ford's neighborhood court time was still all too limited, he got involved in the local YMCA league.

Although his skills on the court improved, the neighborhood guys still told him he was too small.

While at Ridgewood Baptist Academy, Ford joined the basketball team.

Between his freshman and senior years he grew an astounding 13 inches.

The team went on to win the Illinois Association of Christian Schools state championship and won second in the national tournament of the National Association of Christian Schools.

Ford is now 6'7" tall and he is not much too much about his height.

Ford can be seen around school chatting with everyone, students and faculty alike. He says he used to be a shy guy, but having to work and communicate closely as a team member, he was forced to open up.

"While at JJC, I have matured as a player and a person because of the challenges I have been presented and asked to face. It has prepared me for the University," said Ford.

"The coaches have brought out a lot of potential that I thought I didn't have," Ford said.

"By pushing me they have made me the best that I can be. Even though I may not agree with them sometimes."

Ford, a business major, graduates from JJC in May with an Associate in Arts.

Needless to say, the tables have definitely turned for Marcus.

The guys in the neighborhood now ask Ford to play a little softer now that he is a "big time baller."



Marcus Ford takes jump shot against opposing team. Photo courtesy of Athletics Department

"New they say, 'what did your mamma feed you boy?', as they huff while they are holding their backs from exhaustion," said Ford.

"If you want to know why they call me Sky Walker, you can come check us out during the playoffs," said Ford. "We plan to have a winning season. We want to go all the way to the big dance."

by Tony Ciampa

The banter flew everywhere in the Allstate Arena on Jan. 16. Where else could you find signs that state "Where" and "The Rock can rock my world any day" then at a WWE taping of Smackdown?

Going to a WWE event is an experience in learning first hand how out of control masculinity can become.

From the moment I stepped into the arena and was greeted by the new NXT cheerleaders to the closing splash of colliding beer between Stone Cold Steve Austin and The Rock, I knew why I was connecting with these men of machismo.

I wished to unleash all the nastiness I had pent up on a villain or hero for the night and belligerent yelling was the easiest way.

The first parts of the taping were for Sunday Night Heat on MTV. These matches usually involved people who had characters under development or wrestlers descending down the chain of primetime wrestlers.

I found this time to be tedious and a chance to buy all the beer you could before the true matches began. The most disappointing part of the show is the waiting in between matches.

As a person with very little patience, I had extreme trouble waiting to sit through the wait between matches.

Some of the highlights of the night were matches between The Hardy's and The Acolytes, Hardcore Holly and Steve Blackman, and a three on three tag team match between The Undertaker, Rock, Steve Austin, Kane, Angle, and Rikishi.

In the Hardcore match between Holly and Blackman, they each beat each other senseless with objects such as garbage cans, kendo sticks and parking signs.

The match ended when Raven, the hardcore cam, came out and attacked them both.

When the brutish attack was done they laid beaten in silence on the mat.

The match between The Hardy's

and Acolytes was a spectacular display of high-flying action where the Acolytes came off on top with a clothesline from hell by Bradshaw.

In the Final Match of the evening between the six powerhouse of the WWF, they battled with viciousness of rabid dogs.

Austin beat Angle with all of his classic moves that make him so well known in wrestling. As it came towards the end of the match Angle pushed Triple H into Austin causing a collision in the corner.

Triple H, who was special referee for the match, took offense to this action and pedigreed Angle to the mat.

This led to a melee in the ring that finally came to a conclusion when the Undertaker and Kane choke-slammed their opponents on to the mat for the win.

The most fatal flaw the WWF has in their live tapings is the delay of several minutes between matches and the pressing issue of the male dominated audience to see puppies (breasts).

Throughout the night any female within shouting distance was fair game for being cheered on to show their breast. The amazing thing is women complied. This was extremely disturbing considering that families bring their children to such events. Is this what a child should see?

I wished to unleash all the nastiness I had pent up on a villain or hero for the night and belligerent yelling was the easiest way.

People need to take a backseat and give into the idea of entertainment from the show, rather than looking for it in the audience.

The WWF needs to find a way to entertain between these matches. The show is worth it and the WWF needs to keep the attention on this aspect.

JJC cancels women's basketball season

by Dave Parker

The plug has been pulled on the remainder of the Joliet Junior College women's basketball season.

"Lack of numbers has forced us to cancel the rest of the basketball season for our women's basketball team," JJC Director of Athletics, Wayne King said Wednesday.

"We have every intention of reinstating the sport for the 2001-02 school year. That is our primary goal. We have every intention of fulfilling that specific goal."

JJC had six players on its roster when the decision was made to cancel the remainder of the season. The Wolves were 1-10 and last played on

Dec. 16 when they lost 78-63 to Moraine Valley Community College.

"Lack of numbers has forced us to cancel the rest of the basketball season for our women's basketball team."

Wayne King, JJC Director of Athletics.

Tim Johnson, in his seventh year as the Wolves' coach, will not return as the school's coach, Johnson, an industrial arts teacher at Tinley Park Middle School for 14 years, led JJC to its only nationally tournament appearance in March, 1997.

JJC placed third in the 1997

NICAA Division III national tournament held in Coping, N.Y.

"We did pretty well in those six seasons here at Joliet Junior College," Johnson said.

During its run to the national tournament in 1997, the Wolves won some exciting games, including a 61-60 Region IV Division III quarterfinal win over Triton. JJC fought back from a 10-point deficit with one minute remaining to beat Triton.

"I still remember the game," Johnson said. "That has to be one of the highlights of my six years here."

The Wolves were ranked in Division III's top 10 at some time during each of the previous three seasons.

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need search lesson
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Local club in
Mokena attracts
all types of
music, dance and
band fanatics in
the area to their
complex
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Centennial fun is
being cooked up
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Dreams
foreshadow life
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of Cabaret
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JJC police dispel rumors about campus crime

by Michelle Tarrant and
Kaylee Van Hoose

Based on several incidents and the rumors that have been spawned, Joliet Junior College's Chief of Police Steven Bennett and his department are looking into ways to prevent crimes and improve safety on campus.

One incident of harassment outside the cyber cafe reported in the Herald News on Feb. 17 has prompted officials to take a better look at campus safety and security. Bennett and his staff are looking to implement several safety measures on campus.

"I am in the process of advocating an increased number of people on the force," he said. "We already have put additional people out in the field."

But Bennett said that several rumors, including one that alleged a student was living in the ceiling of the T-Building, are not true. According to Bennett, there are "five or six people on this campus

who need to stop telling rumors." He also feels that many incidents have been blown out of proportion in the last few months but are being taken seriously.

"I am disappointed by the article in the Herald News," Bennett explained.

According to the Herald News article, on Feb. 13, a 20-year-old woman was checking her e-mail outside the cyber cafe when a man approached her, put his hand on her shoulder and uttered some vexing words to her.

"The man did not restrain her in any way," Bennett stated. "If we even consider this an assault, this is the worst I've seen here at the college."

According to Bennett's investigation of the incident, the woman came to campus police, filled out a report and was escorted by an officer to her vehicle.

"By the time she got here and the dispatcher did the report the only thing we could do was walk her to her car," he said. There was

no search to find the alleged man that evening.

Also, Bennett said that just a few weeks earlier, in an attempt to retrieve a disk left in a computer lab, a student climbed into a ceiling in the T-Building, shuffled just under two feet within a half hour until he had finally fell through a tile onto the floor unhurt.

"He's a young man who is a special needs student," he said. "He's pre-occupied with computers and wanted to get the disk."

According to Bennett, rumors immediately began to fly that the student was living in the ceiling and had bomb making materials set up in a home-like facade.

"He was not making bombs and he was not living in the ceiling," he stressed. "In our investigation we think he is no threat to the school. He's just a lucky 19-year-old student seeking a disk."

After tumbling through the ceiling, the frazzled student left the building, then came back in and found a custodian who unlocked

the computer lab door and watched him retrieve the disk.

Bennett explains that his officers receive the same training as any other law enforcement official such as the Joliet Police Department.

"Our officers go through our own training," Bennett said pertaining to his officers searching skills. "We are a sworn police department. Joliet police carry guns and we don't. That's the only difference. We are own jurisdiction."

Some other incidences have provoked the campus police to increase security throughout the campus. "Mysterious" messages on blackboards and a few occurrences near women's facilities have made Bennett take a closer look at the situation.

"I took pictures of the bathrooms to brainstorm and figure out what kind of modifications will need to take place to make sure employees are safe," he said.

(See Police Page 5)

Student dies on I-57

Joliet Junior College student Jennifer A. Haake died suddenly Feb. 9 as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Haake was a student at JJC and was pursuing a degree in Veterinary Science.

She was born Oct. 12, 1978 and was a lifetime resident of Joliet. Along with attending classes at JJC, Haake was also the Manager of Verizon Wireless Telecommunications Center on West Jefferson Street in Joliet.

Her parents Joseph and Marianne (nee Thompson) Haake; two sisters Brett and Lauren Haake; grandparents Marilyn Thompson, Joseph and Joliet Haake and many aunts, uncles and cousins, survive Haake.

According to the Herald

News, funeral services were held Feb. 13 at 9 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Neomatus in Joliet. Burial was at 10 a.m. at the Woodlawn Memorial Park.



Jennifer Haake's senior picture at Joliet West High School

Celebrating Black History month with Student Services

by Danna Billings

The Office of Student Services has a new theme, "Celebration through Education".

Each month will be a chance to not only honor a specific group in America's history, but also will provide a number of activities to learn and celebrate that group.

February is Black History month. Activities are listed on the backs of cereal boxes in the cafeteria.

They include motivational speakers, musicians, and vendors.

Project Achieve is hosting a "Tribute to the Men of Color" on February 23 from ten in the morning to two in the afternoon on the bridge.

This is the fifth annual tribute, which gives an opportunity to honor men who are present in the lives of JJC students.

On February 22 at 11 in the morning, there will be a Soul Food Buffet in the cafeteria.

This buffet features food

selections typical of Mardi Gras celebrations.

There will also be a couple of musical highlights this month. On February 22, the Gospel Choir will perform on the Bridge at ten in the morning.

On February 28, Jazz Flutist, Galen, will be performing at 12:30 p.m.

Another highlight is a group called Milewalkers. This is a theatre troupe where students write, perform and discuss monologues and skits on campus issues. Some of the included topics are racial identity, relationships, and coping skills.

Anissa Jones is looking for six students from each campus to listen to and debate on a variety of issues.

If interested in being on the panel, contact Anissa Jones, director of Student Services, in D-1010.

For more information on any of these events or on any future events stop by the OSSA Office.

Book scholarships

by Ashley Bennett

Since their formation in 1988, the Student Alliance, JJC's Student Government, have created successful projects to help out their fellow students.

They are proud to be sponsoring the book scholarship.

This scholarship is made available by fees collected through the use of the ATM Cash Station located in the J building.

Each semester, \$150 will be awarded to two full-time students and \$50 to two part-time students. Scholarships will only be accepted in the JJC Bookstore for the purchase of books and school supplies.

In order to be eligible for this scholarship, students must be currently enrolled and have earned a minimum of six credit hours at the time of application. They need to have a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Students must complete the application and response questions required and also need to provide a current schedule and Academic Summary at the time of application.

Applications are available in D1010 and are due no later than May 1, 2001 for fall semester awards.

African American History Month Activities

Soul Food Buffet Feb. 22 11 a.m.
Cafeteria

Join us and let your teeth sink into some of the variety of creative treats we have for you to enjoy

Gospel Choir Feb. 22 12:30 p.m.
Cafeteria

If you feel like singing or listening, come out and listen to the sounds of the Joliet Central Choir

Men of Color Tribute Feb. 23 10-2
Bridge

This program gives a chance to celebrate the men who have been friends, mentors and inspirational

Flutist Galen Feb. 28 12:30-2 p.m.

Renowned flutist Galen provides music for the ears and lessons for the mind. Check out the jazz history with G Poster Trivia Contest on the Bridge all month

Police in Coal City need to learn some manners

Yet again, another one of my columns begins in story form, including my pal Amanda and myself. Let me set the scene.

An urgent call to my cell phone had me on my knees begging Amanda to accompany on a 45-minute drive to the Brickhouse nightclub in Coal City.

An urgent call to my cell phone had me on an urgent drive to a club in Coal City.

Since I had to be in the area by 1 a.m. and the clock was pushing on towards midnight, she thought it would be a good idea to hook up her radar detector in my old auto (an 89 Caprice with classy rims and a cactus on my radio antenna).

This way we could push the speed limit by about 10 miles per hour and still make it down to hick town by one in the morning.

It was clear sailing past Joliet and once we hopped on I-55 south, I thought we were home free.

Once we got into Coal City (by the way it is a lot more fun to pronounce the words Coal City in a southern accent to add flair to this story), I thought it would be best to maintain the proper speed limit

Clip-n-Save

by Michelle Tarrant



through town. Once we were off the main road, Amanda continued to guide me with the chicken-scratch instructions she was trying to make out by the dome light of my car. We were about to turn around because we had missed the street we were supposed to turn on when all of a sudden we heard the lights, the sirens. THE COPS!

All of a sudden we see the lights, the sirens. THE COPS!

What the? Yes "what the" were the only words that came to my mind in this time of confusion. I turned to Amanda with a puzzled look.

"Uh, what the? I wasn't speeding," I proudly said. "Why am I getting pulled over?"

I pondered that thought for a few seconds, wondering if my

sticker had expired or if that little light over the license plate had burned out.

I quickly realized that the car was in top shape, and looked at an anxious Amanda who was trying to figure out what I did as well as Officer Billy Bob (name changed to protect the moronic) stepped up to the driver-side window.

"Ladies did you know that you were speeding," said Officer Billy Bob.

I told him that I knew for a fact I wasn't speeding, and that I'd never been to Coal City and that all I was trying to do was find the Brickhouse. He then asked for both of our licenses and walked back over to his car.

He's probably gonna try and bust us for some lame Coal City curfew

"He's probably gonna try and bust us for some lame Coal City curfew," I told Amanda.

"Michelle," she said to me as I still pondered the thought of what was going on here. "If we get arrested, remind me to never go on some stupid spur of the moment trip to this trailer trash town again."

Okay. That was a reasonable request I thought to myself as Billy Bob came back to the car. The next words out of his mouth were shocking to say the least.

"Ladies I'm going to ask you to step out of the car so I can search it."

SEARCH MY CAR? What is going on in Coal City? Since I never had my car searched, Amanda and I reluctantly scurried out of the car to wait in the 5-degree warmth for about 5-10 minutes.

Officer Billy Bob then handed us our I.D.'s back and promptly told us where the Brickhouse was and to have a good night. Good night? Hello? What just happened here?

As we got back into the car, we noted that the search was flimsy to say the least. Especially if he was looking to bust us on something illegal. The best of Billy Bob was dumpp a bag of M&M's all over

the floor.

After talking to a few friends, one of who was a police cadet in training, they all came to the same conclusion. That the search was ILLEGAL.

This officer had no right to search our car or to even pull us over in the first place.

The more I thought about it, the angrier I got.

After talking to some friends, they came to the same conclusion. That search was ILLEGAL.

This isn't the first time I've heard about this happening either.

Maybe some suburban and rural police officers need training in how to properly assess and act upon a situation or event that would lead to a legal and thorough search of an automobile.

So, my friends next time you are driving around, and get pulled over by your own conceited and arrogant Officer Billy Bob, ask for another squad car to be sent to the scene to assist and verify the search. Oh, and don't forget to hide the M&M's.

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

Random Shuffling

by Kaylee Van Hoose



Brutal winter causes disturbing pot holes

Students race down the final road destined to be late for their classes dodging what seems to be invisible barriers in swift motions to avoid...no, not each other...all the potholes that this brutal winter has left underneath the many inches of snow.

Annoyingly disturbing yet dangerous all at once; oh the lovely potholes.

We have all seen the damage that this treacherous winter has caused roads.

They are dangerous not only to our precious tires, but maybe even our lives. Note to self: stay away from Firestone tires.

These seemingly deep potholes are causing chaos as students enter and exit the campus. For example, no one can escape the massive pits outside the T-building's parking lot.

As students attempt to quickly leave campus grounds, a ruckus occurs and students struggle to squeeze through the little tiny hallway decent road that has been spared.

They are like bottomless pits that each driver hopes that their car can magically leap over.

They are dangerous not only to our precious tires, but maybe even our lives. Note to self: stay away from Firestone tires.

I observe as other drivers' faces cringe in fear hoping their little cars can somehow make it out alive while even drivers of rather

larger vehicles attempt to stay clear of the way.

The potholes are creating such a hassle that they distract drivers from others.

We steer away from potholes, but do we see the other drivers all at the same time? Perhaps not all the times.

I wonder if there can be some kind of solution. I'm sure there is one.

Fixing them could be one, although we all know that that indeed may cause more of a problem.

This is what I thought, but when I came to school after I finished writing this column, I found that the school was starting to fix the nasty pot holes in the by the T-building parking.

And yes, now they are fixed. There is a God.

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WWW.JJC.CC.IL.US/BLAZER/

Look for current News, Features and Sports stories all at the

tips of your fingers!

CHECK IT OUT!

The Blazer is interested in your opinion. Please contact us with letters to the editor via e-mail at blazer@jjc.cc.il.us or stop by our office located on the Bridge. It's your school. Let your voice be heard.

One summer nightmare changed outlook on life

by Tony Ciampa

The belief in dreams stating significant warnings I never held up in my logical mind. I have read Freud. I know of Jung's theory. To be placed in the circumstance of one summer night's nightmare and the days that followed was enough to change my life and opinion.

The dream began with me staring at a gentleman holding a clipboard outside of a luxury greyhound bus. Slowly, elderly people entered the bus from the right.

As they entered, the gentleman would make a check on the clipboard. Looking up at the faces in the windows, I could tell that the bus riders were not going on a joyride. Somber faces were seen from window to window.

Each person looked to be over seventy and accepting their fate, whatever that may have been. The feeling of needing to know what was going on intensified in me enough to speak to the man with the clipboard. He looked to be

thirty-five, no older than forty. He was not of big stature and his hair was as dark as a mine shaft. I gingerly walked up and asked, "What was going on?" He responded as casual as ordering fries through the drive-thru that he was Death and that he was leading people on to the bus to bring them to their deaths. You would think this would cause me to panic, instead, it seemed to make me more interested. Death stepped into the bus and took position behind the steering wheel.

I followed into the stairwell of the bus. Once inside the bus, I started to interrogate him. I asked, "So, how do you kill them?" He looked at me for a moment, and then off through the bus windshield. It looked like he decided that there were more interesting things going on in the universe than my snotty little questions. The deaths in India from the Earthquakes, the tragedies in the Middle East, I felt like I was holding back his schedule. Finally the glazed over stare came back to normal and he responded, "I usual-

ly hit a wall at 80 MPH or so."

That is the easiest way." It amazed me to hear him say this. Before I could get off the bus, he had the pedal to the floor and was heading straight for a wall. The force from the gravity of the speed pulled me backwards. Closer and closer we came until finally he jerked the bus to the left gently scraping the side of the bus against it. At that moment, I busted out laughing.

I had survived death with Death. I started to ridicule him on how bad he was on his one purpose in afterlife and how badly he missed the wall. This definitely did not go over well. He stared out me with his glassy eyes, and then returned to looking at the road. Out of my exuberance for being alive, I did not notice that he had turned his attention on charging an on-coming car.

I prepared for impending doom. Again, he veered out of the way of sure impact. This caused me to become even giddier. Saved twice in one dream by death. Who

would ever believe this? Maybe Bill and Ted would? We were now careening towards a giant murky puddle.

It almost looked to be as thick as chocolate pudding. About a third of the way over the puddle, the bus took a ninety-degree nose-dive into the ground. It was being sucked into the puddle at such a rate that I was out of the stairwell and into the puddle. The puddle became as deep as a lake and all that was left of the bus was some air bubbles bursting through the murky water. Swimming towards what looked to be a steep hill, I clawed my way up it.

I turned over and stared at the sky. It never felt better to be alive. Out of nowhere, a man begins to approach me. He stands over me and I ask what he wants. He whips out a gun and points it at me. With a questioning voice he says, "Don't you get it. It is your time to go." That is when I woke up with sweat pouring off of me.

Two days later, I awoke in the middle of the night to extreme

pain. The pain begins to throb so badly in the right side of my abdomen that I cannot stand. My first thought is that my appendix has exploded and if I don't get to the hospital soon I am going to die. My second thought went immediately to the dream. It is your time to go.

With that in mind, I rushed to the emergency center. Upon being checked on by a doctor, I am diagnosed with kidney stones. The doctor goes on to explain that what I am feeling is the equivalent of what a woman feels in labor. I just don't know how women do it.

Since this occurred, that dream sticks with me in everyday life because of it being a prelude to a feeling that

I was going to die. It is because of that dream that changed my life and went back to school to follow a dream. Don't wait until something awful in life makes you change your life. Change because it is what is going to bring happiness. Life is only once.

Are you interested in writing? Then we're looking for you. Stop by the Blazer office located on the Bridge, e-mail us at Blazer@jjc.cc.il.us or call us at ext. 2313. No experience is necessary and it's a great opportunity to know JJC

Question of the Issue

How do you feel about the recent ruling in the Napster Case?



"I disagree with the ruling. I think it should be available. It was a good source of music."
Derek Guiter
20, Sophomore



"I think music should be limited. I think there should be a small fee for each song. Anything to prevent Napster from going offline."
Kevin Kaurzharic
18, Freshman



"I feel sad that the government does not allow music to be free. It's also bad because some artists like their music on Napster. Some are for it."
Jason Vitas
20, Sophomore



"They should not have shut it down. It was an inexpensive way to get music."
Allan Schlegler
19, Freshman



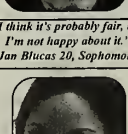
"I think it's probably fair, but I'm not happy about it."
Jan Blucas
20, Sophomore



"It's cool. I don't need Napster. I'll just wait for the next site pop up."
Denzon Loganberry
18, Freshman



"I feel that if they took away Napster, they might as well have taken away CD burners and every other source of free music."
Felicia Randle
19, Freshman



"The artists wrote the song. They got paid for it and their job is done so get over it. Napster's not hurting anybody."
Kelly McShane
19, Sophomore

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at

G-1009.
Blazer
1215 Houbolt Road
Joliet, Illinois 60431
Email: blazer@jjc.cc.il.us

Chilling temps make paying attention difficult for students

Blazer Editorial

Brrr. It's freezing in here. Shocking but true, the halls of JJC are plagued with frostbitten students who just want to escape the freezing temps and attend class in warmth and comfort.

So far this semester, the heat has been turned down on us. Classrooms aren't just cold, they're downright nippy and it's pretty sad when you have to wear your coat all day long because taking it off could result with the infection of pneumonia, bronchitis or just the common cold.

We think that comfort is important in a learning situation. Being cold constantly is beginning to become a complete hindrance toward paying full attention to an instructor.

A member of the Blazer staff has little heat bags she carries around in her pockets all day to keep her hands warm. Yeah right. Well, folks, they actually work, and pretty well at that.

In a way it's also quite amusing to see the little tricks that everyone has to try to keep warm. One girl was spotted rubbing her

hands together in class and then stuffing them under her tush to keep them toasty. Another student we witnessed comes to class in full winter gear. Hat, gloves and a scarf. The works. He just never takes any of it off.

We also asked about 10 students what they thought of the heating situation at school and all of them said to "turn the heat up." Most commented on the fact that they don't want the classrooms at a tropical temperature, just anything above 68 degrees would be a start.

Why is it so cold at Joliet Junior College? One of my classmates has windows along side an entire wall, along with a ceiling where parts of the tile are sticking up, allowing cold air to rush in.

The State of Illinois has had its share of energy problems too during the last few months, which may be the reason for the cold indoors. Gas bills are at least double and even triple to what people were paying last winter for gas.

Perhaps the school was forced to "turn the heat down" because of the energy crisis. At least students can find a nice and warm spot in the cafeteria on a sunny day.

Blazer correction

Gregg Tilos, JJC 유도 teacher, was an ex-classmate of a presidential candidate of the Philippines. The former candidate was incorrectly identified as a former president in the Jan. 31 edition.

Wednesday, February 21, 2001

JJC Centennial celebration

by Danna Billings

Joliet Junior College first opened its doors in 1901 beginning with just six students. In 100 years, JJC is serving over 10,000 students in seven different counties. This year is known as the Centennial Celebration, and there are plans to celebrate throughout the year.

From 1916 through 1920, JJC was officially named Joliet Junior College, was accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and held its first commencement. It has evolved from that point to what we all know as Joliet Junior College today.

A Centennial Web Design Contest is underway. The registration deadline was extended to Feb. 25.

The Department of Computer Information and Office Systems sponsor the contest. To be eligible, students must be enrolled at least part time (six credit hours) at JJC, or in a college or university in the Joliet District 525. You are also eligible if you're enrolled in a high school from District 525 and has a faculty sponsor.

There will be awards given in three categories: Centennial content, academic content, and organizational/commercial content.

The first place prize is a plaque and choice of a \$300 tuition voucher or \$200 in cash. Second place will receive a plaque and \$200 tuition voucher or \$100 cash. Third place will receive a plaque as well as their choice of \$100 tuition voucher or \$50 cash.

Feb. 28 is the deadline for submission of web site materials. A panel of judges will review the materials on March 1, and the winners will be announced on March 12. There will be an Awards Reception held on March 22.

For official rules and more information, check out the JJC home page or Ram Raghuraman in CIOS.

In September, the 2001 Time Capsule will be buried.

According to the JJC website, there are many plans scheduled to celebrate 100 years of the college's existence. It began with a reception on Jan. 6 at the main campus and will end with a Centennial Gala Finale on Jan. 6, 2001, at the City Center Campus.

In February, there was an U.S. Postal Service Unveiling Event on the Bridge. There was also a Centennial Technical Reception on Feb. 21.

Three events are scheduled for the month of March including the Centennial Computer Information Reception on the 22nd. On March 30, there will be a Centennial Classical 100 Dinner in the cafeteria at the main campus. On March 31, a Centennial Culinary Arts Ice Carving Competition will take place.

February 28 is the deadline for submissions of the JJC web site

During April, the American Association of Community Colleges National Conference and the Fine Arts Theatre production of *Seduced* will occur. The eighth annual Poetry Reading will also take place on April 24, at two in the afternoon. The Centennial Community College Movement and Staff Recognition reception will be held the following day.

May will bring a Jazz concert, Chamber Singers, a Community

Band concert, the Centennial National Celebration of Nursing Education Celebration reception, and a Centennial Commencement with the debut of the Centennial Commemorative coin.

The 20th Annual Alumni Brunch, the Centennial Social/Behavioral Sciences reception, and a Centennial Rome to Athens Celebration trip will all occur in June.

July will bring the Centennial Athletic Achievement reception and the World's Largest Class Reunion. The reunion will combine class reunions for Joliet Township High School and Joliet Junior College.

The Illinois State Landscape Contractors Association and the Centennial North Campus reception will both be held in August.

In September, the 2001 Time Capsule will be buried. The Centennial Veterans Achievement reception, the Illinois Community College Board meeting, and the Moving Wall Vietnam Veterans Memorial will also be in September.

October will bring the annual Conference of the West Lakes Division of the Association of American Geographers, the Centennial Counseling Department reception, and the joint fall meeting of the Illinois Section and Chicago Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers.

The only event currently scheduled for November is the Centennial Department of Mathematics reception.

December will bring the Centennial City Center reception and the Madrigal Dinner Feast.

For more information on these events, consult the Joliet Junior College site at www.jjc.cc.il.us.

The history of JJC

1901 Joliet Junior College (as it would later be named)

begins with six students at Joliet Township High School.

1916 College officially named Joliet Junior College.

1917 JJC accredited by the North Central Association of

Colleges and Secondary Schools.

1918 College holds first formal commencement on June 19.

1920 Separate JJC library established.

1928 Student Council organized.

1930 College newspaper, *The Blazer*, born.

1950 First college football team established.

1967 E. W. Rowley named first college president; District

525 established as a Class I junior college district, and college

begins operating under its first Board of Trustees.

1969 JJC moves into temporary buildings on its new campus

on Bush Road, now Houbolt Road.

1973 Joliet Junior College Foundation incorporated 1976

Industry/Business Institute organized.

1980 College opens an instructional site in downtown Joliet

at the Louis Joliet Renaissance Center, now known as the

City Center Campus.

1981 Fine Arts Building opens on Main Campus.

1993 North Campus opens in Romeoville with a full range

of credit and non-credit classes.

1996 Arthur G. and Vera C. Smith Business and Technology

Center opens on Main Campus.

2000 Veterinary Medical Technology/Industrial Training

Facility opens.

Students can show school spirit through Centennial memorabilia. The items range in price from \$1 to \$40. For ordering information contact Lisa Hellman at hellman@jjc.cc.il.us, or by phone at (815)280-2745.

Centennial Sweatshirts are \$15

Travel mugs, oversized coffee mugs and smaller white coffee mugs run \$5.

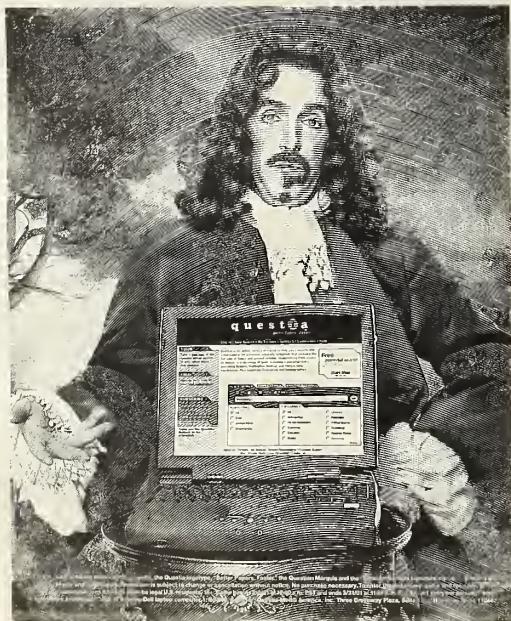
Pencils, notepads and a package of five-gold covered chocolate coins all run \$1.

A three and a half-inch white chocolate Centennial disc and Centennial

license plate frames cost \$2

Centennial beads are \$10.

Denim shirts and purple chambray shirts with the Centennial logo both cost \$40.



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Police

(continued from Page 1)

Bennett said he wants to study the situation and figure out what areas need more call boxes. He would also like to reconfigure light switches in bathrooms so only maintenance and pertinent personnel have access to them.

Bennett also stated that there has been an ongoing problem with gang graffiti in men's bathrooms and non-students on campus.

"We are looking at several groups who appear to not be students," he said. "We immediately started working with the Joliet

Gang Taskforce to discern if we have a gang problem on campus."

Bennett is also trying to implement a plan where students will be issued photo I.D. cards. He said the I.D.'s would benefit the safety of everyone at JJC and also aid campus police during incidents where identification is key to the apprehension of criminals.

"It's something I'd have to put forth to the administration and safety committees," he said. "We don't have them now, and I think it would be an important way of knowing who some people on campus are."

He also wants to increase the

patrol force, install more closed-circuit TV cameras, and call boxes to the parking lots. He also wants to add to improve lighting to the parking lots.

Bennett feels that students should take part in preventing crime activities on campus. He suggests that students should:

Be aware

Be alert

If a person felt the need to be escorted that campus police would be happy to assist.

"We want to assure the college community that we are doing everything humanly possible to provide safety to our students."

JJC Hosts Pow Wow

Joliet Junior college will present its Fifth Annual Woodland Reunion Traditional Pow Wow from 12-9 p.m. March 10 with grand entries slated for 1-6 p.m. at the Main Campus.

The JJC Native American Club and the Office of Student Services and Activities sponsor the pow wow in cooperation with the American Indian Center of Chicago.

Activities include Native American dancing, music and a variety of vendors exhibiting and selling their crafts. Native American food will be available in the cafeteria from noon-6 p.m.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for seniors and students. Children under age 6 are free.

For more information, call Fred Harris at (815) 280-2566.

JJC club meetings for February

Chess Club Feb. 22 5 p.m. Cafeteria	Judo Club Saturdays 8-10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays 9-11 a.m.	Bridge Soccer Club Feb. 24 11-1:00 p.m. Student Alliance Feb. 22 3 p.m. Bridge Vet Tech Club Feb. 22 3 p.m. V-1016
Intervarsity Christian Fellowship Feb. 21, Feb. 28 1-3 p.m. G-204 JC Players Feb. 27 3 p.m. Theatre Lobby	Gym PeersPromoting Wellness Feb. 21 11:30 a.m. D-1012 Phi Theta Kappa Feb. 21 4:30-8:30 p.m.	

Upcoming OSSA events

Student Trustee Elections will be held

April 4 and April 5.

Nominations are now being taken for student speaker at the 2001 Centennial Commencement Applications are due by March 26.

Applications for the Student Achievement Award and Student Speaker are available in the OSSA office in Room D-1010.

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News briefs: Web classes, centennial trip and more

Explore web designs through JJC Classes

Joliet Junior College's Institute of Economic Technology is offering several classes covering Internet topics. Classes meet at the City Center Campus, 214 N. Ottawa St., Joliet. Fee is \$125 for each class.

Create Your Own Web Site Using HTML (TECH 2020) meets from 6-9 p.m. Tuesdays, April 10 and 17, or 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, May 11.

Enhance Your Web Site With Advanced HTML (TECH 2510) meets from 6-9 p.m. Thursdays, March 15 and 22, or 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, May 18.

Building a Web Site Using FrontPage (TECH 2510) meets from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, March 29 or Wednesday, May 2, or 6-9 p.m. Thursdays, April 19 and 26.

Creating Web Sites Using Dreamweaver (TECH 2024) meets from 6-9 p.m. Mondays,

April 2 and 9.

Creating Animated Designs with Flash (TECH 2021) meets from 6-9 p.m. Mondays, March 19 and 26, or Thursdays, May 3 and 10.

Make Your Web Site Interactive with Basic JavaScript (TECH 2530) meets from 6-9 p.m. Tuesdays, March 20 and 27.

Add Flexibility to Your Web Pages Using Advanced JavaScript (TECH 3517) meets from 6-9 p.m. Mondays, April 23 and 30.

Add Photos and Graphics to Your Web Page Using Photoshop 6.0 (TECH 2540) meets from 6-9 p.m. Wednesdays, April 18 and 25, or 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, May 8. Preregistration is required. To register, call (815) 280-1555.

JJC financial aid workshop

Joliet Junior College is hosting a free workshop to help people with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the

state and federal financial aid form for college. Area financial aid professionals will assist families with the application and filing process.

The workshop will take place from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, in C-Building on the college's Main Campus.

Attendees will receive information on hot topics such as changes to the FAFSA, early awareness issues such as academic preparation and planning for college costs, the Illinois prepaid tuition program, general information about federal tax credits and benefits for higher education, and information on financial aid sources such as grants, scholarships, Federal Work Study and educational loans.

For more information, call 1-800-899-4722 or go to www.faa.org or contact the JJC Financial Aid Office at (815) 280-2528.

Centennial trip to Athens, Rome

The registration deadline is drawing near for the Joliet Junior

College Centennial Celebration trip. The "Rome to Athens" trip will be held June 18-26.

March 1 is the last day to register for the trip, which includes round-trip airfare, six overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms, plus one night cabin accommodation, full-time bilingual tour director, eight sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides, eight visits to special attractions and two walking tours.

During the nine days in Italy and Greece, travelers will tour the cities of Rome.

They will also have the opportunity to visit places such as Pompeii, Patras, Olympia, Tolo, Epidaurus, Mycenae, Athens and Delphi. In Rome, sightseeing will include St. Peter's Basilica, the Forum, the Colosseum and the Sistine Chapel.

Total cost for students is \$1,793. Cost for adults is \$2,048. Costs for insurance and an optional Greek evening are additional. Also available for an additional cost of \$495 is a four-day island cruise extension.

For more information, call (815) 280-2745.

JJC Interior Design Club helps community

The JJC Interior Design Club, a club for Joliet Junior College Interior Design students, recently completed its first community service project, the Color Scheme and Finishes Project for the Morning Star Mission of Joliet.

Students involved in the project were proud of their work and dedication toward the community service project that was based out of the food pantry in Joliet.

"The students involved with the project faced many challenges."

"It was like working with your eyes shut," said Gladys Hughes, JJC faculty member and club advisor in a recent press release. "When they started working, there was just a hole in the ground."

The students designed a color scheme for a chapel/dining room, kitchen, a suite of offices, two entrances and three washrooms.

They also specified wall, door and trim finishes, carpet and tile, window treatments, and artwork for the public rooms.

Students overcame a variety of design challenges, such as rooms with no windows, low ceilings, volunteer labor, budget restrictions and a short time span to complete the project.

The completed project was presented to the Mission Board by students Liz Nahas of Elwood, Virginia Cattoni of Lemont and Lorana Buckman of Morris.

The Mission's new building is located at Washington and Union streets in Joliet. The organization, which provides shelter and food for the needy, served 81,000 meals last year.

In starting the club, Hughes established three core purposes. The first is to give students a chance to gain volunteer experience.

The second purpose is to return something to the community. The third purpose is to enjoy field trips and give students access to up-to-date information in the field.

Currently, students are investigating the color and material changes in style in the past 100 years in connection with JJC's Centennial celebration, but the club is considering its next project. Possibilities include working with Habitat for Humanity on a duplex or a renovation of Salvation Army headquarters.

Other club activities include regular meetings, fundraisers and field trips, such as a recent trip to Farnsworth House in Plano, Ill. When students complete JJC's Interior Design program, their career choices are "unlimited," said Hughes, "because they have that foundation of training."

Interior design career options include work in kitchen and bath design, office/restaurant design, lighting, retail buying, furniture store consultants, or starting interior design businesses. The interior design program is proud of the many opportunities they offer toward students who are interested in the courses.

For information on the program, call Barbara Pergande, JJC Interior Design faculty, at (815) 280-2492.

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Road rage: A power struggle that affects all drivers

by Kaylee Van Hoose

Profanity expresses the animosity, blaring horns exhibit confusing anger, animated hand gestures show the impatience and tailgating declares revenge. The art of driving is becoming a deadly sport these days, competing with the inevitable road rage.

More and more drivers are becoming aggressive fighting for their territories on the road.

In Massachusetts, Donald Graham, a 54-year-old bookkeeper, became embroiled in heated, ongoing traffic dispute with Michael Blodgett, 42, on Feb. 20, 1994. After the motorists antagonized each other for several miles on the interstate, they both pulled over to an access road and got out of their vehicles. At that point Graham retrieved a powerful crowsfoot from his trunk and murdered Blodgett with a razor-sharp 29-inch arrow.

According to the Automobile Association, aggressive driving is driving under the influence of impaired emotions. There are three categories of impaired emotions including impatience and inattentiveness, power struggle and recklessness, including road rage.

The majority of motorists drive in an emotionally impaired

Mizell & Company analyzed the "reasons" given for violent disputes and collected the following list. Each of the reasons listed is associated with at least 25 incidents that resulted in death or injury:

"It was an argument over a parking space..."

"He cut me off"

"She wouldn't let me pass"

A driver was shot to death

"because he hit my car"

"Nobody gives me the finger..."

A shooting occurred "because one motorist was playing the radio too loud."

"The bastard kept honking and honking his horn..."

"He/she was driving too slowly"

"He wouldn't turn off his high beams"

"They kept tailgating me..."

A driver was chased down and shot to death after fleeing the scene of a hit-and-run following a minor collision

A fatal crash occurred because another driver kept

"braking and accelerating, braking and speeding up."

"She kept crossing lanes without signaling—maybe I overreacted but it taught her a lesson."

"I never would have shot him

if he hadn't rear-ended me"

"Every time the light turned green he just sat there—I sat through three different green lights."

A fatal dispute erupted over which car had the right of way.

A driver accused of murder said "He couldn't care less about the rest of us—he just kept blocking traffic."

A driver charged with attempted murder said, "He practically ran me off the road—what was I supposed to do?"

And a teenager charged with murdering a passenger in another vehicle said simply,

"We was dissed."

According to sophomore Amy Hrubec, she experienced road rage herself just a few weeks ago. She was driving on Houbolt Avenue and was in the right lane to turn and a white car cut her off and swerved around her. Hrubec proceeded to honk her horn and speed down the street.

"I was so upset because if I had moved, I would have hit her and it would have been my fault," said Hrubec.

Andrea Shanholzer, sophomore feels that she is a cautious driver. She's a patient driver who follows the speed limit.

"Aggressive drivers scare me because they are not looking out for anyone else, so you as the cautious driver have to watch out for them and make sure they don't do anything to hurt you," said Shanholzer.

According to the AAA, an average of at least 1,500 men, women and children are injured or killed each year in the United States as a result of "aggressive driving."

A review of 10,377 incidents gathered by Mizell & Company from newspapers, police reports, and insurance reports clearly illustrates that anyone can be targeted and victimized.

The data also indicate that there is no one profile of the so-called "aggressive driver." Although the majority of the perpetrators are between the ages of 18 and 26, Mizell & Company recorded hundreds of cases in which the perpetrator was 26 to 50 years old.

In over 4000 incidents, the perpetrator used a firearm, knife, club, fist, feet or other standard weapon for the attack.

In approximately 2,300 cases the aggressive driver used an even more powerful weapon—his or her own vehicle. And in approximately 1,250 cases the aggressive driver used his or her own vehicle and a standard weapon like a gun, knife, or club.

No information was available for 1,087 of the cases reviewed.



state at certain times. Others drive in this state more often and pose a serious risk to themselves and others.

Driving violations can be identified by reference to these three categories of impaired emotions. Each category of impaired emotion leads to different types of traffic violations.

In order to quantify the extent

of the road rage problem, the Automobile Association commissioned a survey of 526 motorists. The survey, carried out in January, 1995, found that almost 90 percent of motorists have experienced "road rage" incidents during the last 12 months.

Sixty percent admitted to losing their tempers behind the wheel. Aggressive tailgating (62 percent) was the most common form of "road rage," followed by headlight flashing (59 percent), obscene gestures (48 percent), deliberately obstructing other vehicles (21 percent) and verbal abuse (16 percent). One percent of drivers claim to have been physically assaulted by other motorists.

Although aggressive tailgaters victimized 62 percent of drivers, only 6 percent admitted to doing it themselves. Gender differences were not as great as expected; 54 percent of women admitted to aggressive driving behavior, compared with 64 percent of men.

Road rage can be caused by something as little as a stoplight or another occupant of the road driving the speed limit or just below.

In Seattle, Wash., Terrance Milton Hall, 57, shot and killed Steven Burgess, a 21-year-old college student, because Burgess was unable to disarm the loud anti-theft alarm on his jeep.

In the Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C., in April of 1996, Narkey Keval Terry and Billy Carpe, both 26, began dueling in their cars as they drove up the George Washington Parkway. Traveling at speeds of up to 80 miles per hour, the cars crossed the median of the parkway and hit two oncoming vehicles.

Only one of the four drivers involved in the crash survived; Narkey Terry was sentenced to 10 years in prison for his role in the incident.

JIC sophomore Alanna Dillman admits that she can often times be an impatient driver. She tries to avoid certain situations like slower drivers and stoplights by taking the highway, yet gets distressed in traffic.

"I guess you can call me an impatient driver. I don't like to wait, and traffic really disturbs me," said Dillman.

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Calendar of College Visits

-Feb. 22 University of Illinois-Chicago 9:30am-3pm

INDIVIDUAL ADVISING — BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

See Carol Hamilton for appointment. D-1010/Student

Center or call (815) 280-2537

Students must bring copy of academic summary to

appointment.

-Feb. 22 University of St. Francis Nursing Bridge 9am-1pm

-Feb. 22 Robert Morris College T-Concourse/Vending Area

-Feb. 27 University of St. Francis Bridge 9am-1pm

-March 1 Benedictine University D-Concourse 10am-1pm

-March 5 University of St. Francis Nursing Bridge 9am-1pm

-March 15 Elmhurst College Bridge 11am-1pm

-March 20 University of Illinois-Chicago 9:30am-3pm

INDIVIDUAL ADVISING — BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

See Carol Hamilton for appointment. D-1010/Student

Center or call (815) 280-2537

Students must bring copy of academic summary to

appointment. March 20 University of St. Francis Nursing

Bridge

-March 20 Robert Morris College D-Concourse 9am-1pm

-March 26 Benedictine University D-Concourse 10am-1pm

-March 27 University of St. Francis Bridge 9am-1pm

-March 29 Southern Illinois University-C Bridge 9am-1pm

Calendar of Events for Feb.

Joliet Junior College is hosting the fifth annual "Tribute to Men of Color" on Feb. 23, in honor of Black History Month.

Professional men of color will showcase their occupations to JJC students from 10 a.m.-noon. A luncheon will follow at 12:15 p.m.

For more information, call (815) 280-2456.

JJC Jewelry Class has Handcrafted Jewelry Sale on Wednesday and Thursday, March 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The JJC Metalsmithing Class will be exhibiting and selling their handcrafted earrings,

pins, rings, bracelets, necklaces, beads and ornaments in gold, silver, copper, brass, niobium, glass and semi-precious stones.

The Third Annual Transition Conference "Burgess After High School" will be held March 24 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in JJC's Main Campus cafeteria.

Wanna be a rock super star? Karaoke will be held on the bridge on Feb. 21 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Jerry Lewis will be hosting the next Brown Bag Lecture called "Name That Tune" at noon in J-0006.

Second City is making its way to JJC on March 23 at 7 p.m. Tickets go on sale March 1 for \$10. Contact Anissa Jones or the Office of Student Services and Activities for more information.

The International Film Forum is showing Germany's "Aguirre: Wrath of God" on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. in D-2006 and on Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m.

JJC is hosting a free workshop to help people with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on Feb. 24 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the C-building.

Joliet Junior College will present its Fifth Annual Woodland Reunion Traditional Pow Wow from noon-9 p.m. March 10 with grand entries slated for 1-6 p.m. at Main Campus.

If you're interested in graphology here is your chance. JJC's Internet Graphology, led by Johanna Stworzyjanek will be held March 2 in D-2002.

The Newman Club is holding a Lenten retreat Feb. 21 in room C-2006 from 1:45-4 p.m. All students are invited.

The Soul Food Buffet will be held in the cafeteria from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 22. All students are encouraged to attend and dine.

The Epicurean Club is having a bake sale from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the cafeteria Feb. 22. Students are invited to attend.

Horoscopes

by Matt Packard

Aries:

Your frustration will continue. Every friggin time you check the Preview Guide, the channel you were looking for just passes. If you would've flipped over just two seconds earlier!

Taurus:

If you are a Taurus and your name is Bill Kettleon and your credit card number is 6012 0023 3025 70258 (expiration date: 01 / 02), you left your credit card at Shoney's.

Gemini:

You will finally find the nerve to ask out that cute girl who keeps glancing at you in History class. She will then remind you that you sit in front of the clock.

Cancer:

What do you get when you cross failure, mortal damnation, and a relentless mental pummeling? Cancer's week.

Leo:

You will be inspired by corporate America and offer to merge with McDonald's.

Virgo:

Beware, deception is approaching. That station can't really play all your favorite songs. They don't even know you.

Libra:

Dilemma on the rise. The box says that quitting smoking now greatly reduces serious risks to your health, but your friends say that quitting now seriously jeopardizes your coolness.

Scorpio:

It's time to regroup and replan. Working as a secretary and going to school is no way to get your porn career rolling.

Sagittarius:

That cashier at the grocery store is so adorable! She's got to have a boyfriend. Besides, there's no way she'd go out with me... uh... I mean you.

Capricorn:

You will be outraged! How could they take that time slot away from Bear in the Big Blue House? Sure, Book of Pooh is an outstanding show. But, couldn't they find any other time slot for it? What a crock!

Aquarius:

Your high score of 1,504 on your cellular phone's "snake" game is probably not something you want to be bragging about.

Pisces:

You will get that strange feeling that someone is looking at you. You needn't worry.



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CD REVIEWS

The Donnas, Jill Scott and Musiq Soulchild

CD Ratings:

- ***** - Excellent
 **** - Great
 *** - Good Tunes
 ** - Not worth the \$15
 * - Not worth the wax

by Matt Packard

The Donnas/
Turn 21

I have a huge crush on this band, but I will do my best to be objective. As the disc's title implies, the Donnas have grown up, yet, somehow their songs have gotten even more juvenile.

Throughout their 5th album together, they thrust their sexual energy at "40 Boys in 40 Night,"

police officers, store clerks and anyone else in a tight pair of pants. I don't suspect that anyone buys a Donnas' album for social commentary, but you can only chant so many lines like "All mixed up and I don't care/ So c'mon take off your underwear!" Now, there are a few great songs.

Their "Living After Midnight" cover rivals the "Too Fast for Love" cover on their previous and far superior album, "Little Boy." "You've Got a Crush on Me," and "Do You Wanna Hit It" are some of their best work.

Unfortunately, most of what is left would be dull mush if not for the abrasive lyrics.

I used to describe them to people as "the Ramones with menstrual cycles." Now it seems more appropriate to liken them to Lil' Kim with guitars...not that I'm complaining.

Jill Scott/
Who Is Jill Scott?

As she has glided into the frame of modern soul and R&B, many heads have turned and uttered this album's title.

As she has picked up steam, more and more people are offering answers. It may sound trite, but the best way to describe this album is smooth.

There is no contrived flash, no gimmicks, and nothing is forced. This is an album that you can leave

on repeat and enjoy for an entire day.

Should you decide to do this, you might wait eagerly for "It's Love" and "The Way" to come back around again.

These are two of the best examples of the silky rhythms and melodies that back up Scott's delicately powerful singing.

She is poetic, sensual, loving and smart. "A Long Walk" is another standout track that finds a wonderful groove somewhere between catchy and relaxed.

Musiq Soulchild/
Aijuswanasang

**1/2

This album is romantic enough to stay home and slow dance to, yet it's not too mushy to enjoy if you're forced to dance alone.

Aijuswanasang (I just wanna sing) has three very likable tracks to its credit. The rest sound like

Boyz II Men. On the upper hand, it offers "Girl Next Door," "You and Me," and "Sunny." My brother (a high schooler of the TRU generation) likes these. All three contain nice harmonies, catchy, rolling hooks and sweet lyrics.

On the other hand, the rest of the songs share the problems that didn't plague the aforementioned tracks enough for me to dislike them.

The problem here is that these weaknesses scream over the "musiq" for the rest of the album. While the lyrics are sweet, they are often embarrassing.

The beats too often border on either rugged or flimsy. He never finds comfortable borders.

For the most part, the singer stomps all over a style that ran its course years ago. On "Sunny" he steals the listener with a forgotten style comparable to Tony Toni Tone.

Further exploration and/or exploitation of this sound might have made this a much more enjoyable album.

New dance club in Mokena isn't run of the mill

by Michelle Tarrant

Ever since I was fortunate enough to be graced with the ripe old age of 21, I've also been lucky enough to have the opportunity to dance and have a good time at some of the best clubs in the Chicagoland area. One of my favorites, for many reasons, is Ground Zero located in Mokena off of 191st Street just past LaGrange Road.

Ground Zero has
proved itself positive by
showing that it isn't
just another trendy
dance bar.

Most people think of the place as just a dance club, but Ground

Zero has shown itself positive, showing that it isn't just another trendy dance bar.

Upon arriving at GZ, parking is scarce and the place can be packed, especially on the weekend. People are encouraged to park about 10 blocks away in the Metra parking lot, where a shuttle for the club will pick you up and take you right to the front doors. It's a great service for patrons, plus people don't have to freeze their butts off in the cold.

Friday and Saturday nights are a blast for people who do enjoy dancing. A high blend of techno and new age music sweeps across the club kids as they get their groove on. At GZ, a large dance floor can house hundreds of people at a time, allowing plenty of room for getting to know someone.



The happening local dance club, Ground Zero, in Mokena

The place is huge with an upstairs lounge, bar and VIP section. It is fun to take a break from the dancing and go upstairs to watch the action as it unfolds. The upstairs viewing area is one of the best qualities of the club for its uniqueness and flair of being able to walk over the downstairs bar and dance room and be able to watch everyone boogie their butts off.

For those who don't like to dance however, GZ also houses a large game room with about 12 pool tables, several pinball machines and ice hockey tables.

Also, for those just looking for a downplayed bar scene, the complex also contains a smaller bar, with several big screen TV's and a lounge room to make it a place where everyone can enjoy your name.

On some Sunday nights, GZ has been hosting a number of excellent cover bands from the Chicago area. In January, The Fab Four, a local Beatles cover band, graced the scene with their almost exact reenactment of a group that is gone.

Later this month, a Led Zeppelin cover band is expected to play a gig there as well.

During the week, several different nights host different events ranging from Mardi Gras themed activities to brew and view nights. A new act that the place has tried out was the "comedy club" nights

during January and through the rest of February.

During the week
several different nights
host several different
events from Mardi
Gras night to brew
and view nights.

Thursday nights boast live bands and local entertainment from the south and southwest suburban area. Tuesday nights are also ladies night, where a girl can get in for free and drafts are only a quarter.

So if a broad range of entertainment is what you are looking for, look no further. Ground Zero is close, cheap and simply fun.

GZ's hours are from Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m.-1 a.m. and Friday through Saturday 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

For more information on events call 708-478-9600.

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Cabaret set essential and on schedule

by Matt Furlane

The production of any play requires several elements working in harmony in order to present itself to the audience effectively.

Actors, scene design, costumes, make-up, lighting, and sound all contribute to the specific look and feel of a theatre production.

In this season's presentation of Cabaret, directed by Zachary Bloomfield, the scene design will play an important role in creating atmosphere for the actors and the audience.

Although there are several locations portrayed in the play, the main attraction will be the recreation of the infamous 1930s Kit Kat Club in Berlin where the patrons tried to forget or ignore what was happening in Germany as the Nazi's began to take control.

Although there will be room for the imagination of the audience, every aspect of the club construction is being designed to help convey a specific tone and portray the various themes of the play.

"We want to create a sense of the night club and the underground," said Bloomfield. "The seedy, mysterious, exciting and slightly dangerous quality that's true of a lot of the play and a lot of the experiences that the characters go through."



Cabaret practice at JJC last week

Much of the Kit Kat Club will be dark colored and consist of a raised platform, long black curtains, several sets of stairs, a doorway, black chairs and tables.

And even the curtains will convey something relevant to the play.

"They are used to conceal but they are also used [to create mystery]. What's on the other side of the curtain? Is it going to be something exciting? Scary? People are going to disappear and appear suddenly," said Bloomfield.

The building of the set began in early January and has continued with the help of students.

Technical Director Nicki Blowers has coordinated the construction of nearly 80 sets during her career.

She said that every set has a

different degree of complexity, depending on what's needed for a particular show and what will serve the production.

She is encouraged by the level of progress on this set so far.

"I feel very good about the construction. We've always intended to have the set 99 percent completed by our first technical rehearsal," she said.

Presently the construction has been on schedule and every Saturday students have been able to contribute a little towards its completion.

JJC Student and Assistant Technical Director Mark Wieting, who is also in the play, helped construct large portions of the set and is in charge of the student crew.

"They work very well. Some of them are being exposed to things they have never done before, like building decking style platforms," he said. "On the whole everyone is being really cooperative."

The end result should contribute to a great performance and a satisfied audience.

"If it works the way we hope it will, and this is a big part of the design," said Bloomfield.

"We should be able to flow very smoothly from one scene to another without there being scene changes."



Derrick Trumbly and Jennifer Bludgen in a scene from the Jofet Junior College Production of Cabaret running March 1-4, 2001 in the Fine Arts Theatre on Main Campus. For ticket information, call 815-280-2200



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Athlete of the issue: Dustin Wieglus - Winning at the most 'dangerous' sport

by Michelle Tarrant

Having a full time job and having almost a full load of classes at JK can be pretty tough on any student. But to tackle all that and try to achieve your dream at the same time can be quite a feat.

Joliet Junior College freshmen Dustin Wieglus is doing all that right now and is about to begin another season of competing in pro rodeo.

Wieglus has been competing locally and nationally in rodeos for about a year and a half.

"My father used to do rodeo and he always talked about his days backed up in it," Wieglus stated. "It sounded pretty cool and like something I would be interested in, so I decided to do it."

According to Wieglus, there are six different events that make up a typical rodeo including: Bare Bronco Riding, Saddle Bronco Riding, calf roping, steer wrestling and Women's Barrel Racing.

"The final event of the rodeo, Bull Riding is Wieglus' specialty. "County fairs are where most of the competitions are held locally," he said when talking about competing in Will County and Kankakee County fairs. "This year I plan on doing a lot more traveling to Texas and Oklahoma."

Prize money is handed out at these competitions. During competition leading up to finals, prize money at an event can range from \$100-5000.

"The most I've won is in the range of about three hundred to five hundred dollars," Wieglus said.

In rodeo there aren't any trophies or honors given until the finals at the end of the season. Typically belt buckles are given out and the winner of the world championship receives about \$15,000.

According to Wieglus, a member of the Professional Bull Riding association, one of his goals is to become champion of the P.B.R. where first prize is \$20,000.

He also wants to participate in about four more rodeos. To get to that point, though, is not an easy task.

"Anyone can win at a rodeo final," he said. "Some of these guys

have been at it for a year and won and some guys have done it for 15 years and never won a championship. It depends on how bad you want it."

Beginning next month, Wieglus will be practicing three days a week and competing for two days to better himself at the sport. He usually place in an event a rider must ride the bull for a full eight seconds.

"One of my highpoints was when I first rode a bull for eight seconds," he said. "I had to train for about four months before I could do that."

Although the rodeo can be a unique and exhilarating sport, Wieglus has a lot of respect for the rodeo after an accident with a bull

last season.

"I got hit in the back of the head and was knocked out unconscious and woke up with five staples in the back of my head," he said about the incident. "I had never really gotten seriously hurt before and I never thought that it would happen to me."

The rodeo season is very long and begins near the end of February with finals wrapping the season up in December.

Wieglus also stated that bull riding is the most dangerous sport in the world and knows that with first hand experience.

"I don't get as cocky as I used to because of what happened," he said. "It's an unpredictable sport that I have a lot more respect for."

XFL kicks off and causes stir in the media world

by Tony Ciampa

Vince McMahon stood on the 50-yard line and announced to the millions "This is the XFL." What exactly the XFL is in the football world may be bringing changes to the traditional football everyone has grown up watching or is it the sex and violence that our culture has learned to thrive on?

The XFL has made it clear with its excessive advertising and scantily clad cheerleaders that football is not the priority. The main concern of the XFL is entertainment. It is the accent on entertainment rather than football that shall become the demise of it. As we all know any sitcom that the XFL shall be competing with for ratings has one thing on its side. It has a plot. McMahon's hope for spontaneous interaction will be the straw that breaks the camel's back.

Having the P.T. Barnum of the 21st century in Vince McMahon, owner of the WWF, does not hurt the XFL. McMahon brings to the table his selling gimmicks and entertainment bravado that will entice the new crowds to watch his new found league.

With the birth of the new league, being a second rate football player became for the first time in years a viable job. On average, a quarterback is paid \$50,000 and everybody else makes \$45,000. The incentive to playing for so cheap is that you get paid additional money for each win your team scraps out.

In an effort to make this new league more appealing, McMahon has added many variations to the game in hopes of spicing it up

There will be no fair catches on punts, bump and run is okay as long as you are fronting the man, one-foot inbound on receptions, and no kicks for PAT. Can this be safe? This does not seem to be a concern to McMahon and it won't become a concern until the players do become a union. The concern is entertainment.

"I want to know these guys," said McMahon in a recent magazine article. "People worry about letting players show their emotion and personality. We applaud celebration. If a player don't take off his helmet, that's when we fine him."

In the opening game of the XFL between the NY/NJ Hitmen and Las Vegas Outlaws, the teams showed why this spontaneous idea would not work. At least three times during the game, reporters tried to start a conversation with a coach or player only to be ignored. This spare time could be put to use by Jesse "the body" Gervase/whatever" Ventura in his hopes of trying to find any sense of what a color commentator is supposed to do. There were too many times when there was dead air between plays.

Another new plan that seemed doomed from the very beginning of the game was the new camera views. They wanted to place you in the huddle or behind the quarterback as plays were taking place. This led to the disoriented feeling that you were in "The Blair Witch Project." When you wished to see the whole field, you were placed at a 45-degree angle. This limited the action available to the viewer. In

the future, they will be changing to a more traditional view in order to keep the attention on the game and not on hearing the coach call a "Z" left wing pepper jack cheese in the five hole on two."

McMahon is giving availability things that we never cared to know. People never wanted to know about what went on in the



locker rooms at halftime. People never wanted to know the names of the plays. People never wanted to know how the fans felt after their team just scored a touchdown. These are irrelevant things to a football game.

In speaking of the more violent aspect of the XFL, the cheerleaders who represent the sex aspect have been left out. Most cheerleaders are ex-dancers and actresses looking for their big break.

On opening night, they dressed and played the part of the sex kitten on the sidelines. In one interview with a cheerleader and a quarterback, the cheerleader casually mentioned that this quarterback really knows how to score. The sexual innuendo was placed out there for everyone to hear. When will NBC balk and tell McMahon enough? With the high ratings they received for their first

Saturday night, it could be far away.

The timing of the XFL is perfect for the age group it is trying to reach. This same group loves The Sopranos, WWF, and Baywatch. Sex and violence is one of the greatest one-two combinations in the world.

People will watch because of the chance that at any one moment a player will explode. This is what the XFL is hoping will happen. It is going to be hard for the XFL to get past this image and be known for football. It does not seem to really matter to them when players wear jerseys with nicknames on them.

The seriousness of the whole situation is amusing. If these players were looking to this as being a chance at breaking into the NFL, they should at least wear their name on the back of their jerseys.

A major concern to McMahon has to be ratings slipping. The initial consumer of this new brand of football tuned in with the idea of plus thickening over the season, coaches fighting with the star quarterback, and players and cheerleaders having intimate relationships that fall apart before our eyes because of a botched play on the field. In reality, life does not imitate art.

Will McMahon turn to writing plots for his players? This could become the only way his league can survive.

With the shared interest of NBC, TNN and UPN investing a lot of trust in McMahon to pull through on his end of the bargain, it shall be fun to see how long it is before a player runs into the stands and grinds on a cheerleader after a

touchdown.

A final thought on this whole subject is that if the league does become a success will McMahon start paying his star players more money. I suspect the answer is no. McMahon will have the opportunity to place whoever he wants on the field as long as the ratings are high.

He knows how to create stars. The average player who could not make it in the NFL will take a job where they can make \$45,000 for working about 12 weeks. Past NFL players such as Rashawn Salams, John Avery and Tommy Maddox have everything to lose playing in the XFL.

To put your body at risk of an injury for a fledgling league that will replace you because you want a nice is insane. Don't think for one second that if one of these players has a career ending injury McMahon will be there to help out him and his family. His track record as owner of the WWF shows that is a pipe dream.

With a little clearing up of the ideas behind what the XFL hopes to accomplish in the inaugural year, they could become a viable force in the spring sports year. A majority of football junkies go dormant at this time of the year.

If McMahon and his merry group of underachievers can pull together a legitimate league, football could become a new craze for the springtime.

The XFL is going to find that the hardest thing to do is mix entertainment and football. Look for the entertainment aspects to wane in the future.

Local CUBS Convention draws cheers and some jeers

by Tony Ciampa

In no other city can you find fans that celebrate their team as enthusiastically as at a Chicago Cubs convention.

Cheers and some unexpected jeers toward past and present players highlighted the opening ceremony.

When Cub legends of the past like Ron Santo and Ernie Banks came out with hands raised in thanks years of support, the fans showed their appreciation with overwhelming applause.

At one point the crowd came together in an impromptu singing of "Happy Birthday to You" for Banks who had turned 70 a few days earlier.

The fans showed their disapproval with situations of the pre-

sent when Sammy Sosa was introduced. From first sight of Sosa on the balcony, the boo-birds began their assault.

Sosa, who is in a contract dispute with the Cubs, smiled to the crowd and flashed his signature finger thumb to his chest and mouth for the fans.

The main focus of the Cubs convention is to give fans and players a chance to interact with one another.

Throughout the three days at the conventions, fans had an opportunity to search out their favorite players and meet the people they idolized while watching play baseball.

Cub's favorites from the 69' or 84' past convention teams were scattered throughout the conven-

tion. A majority of these players welcomed autograph seekers.

In order to get some of the bigger name player's autographs there was a lottery. These players were the hall of fame candidates.

Players such as Ryne Sandberg, Sosa and Banks made incredible waits worth it if you were lucky enough to be one of the hundred people chosen to get an autograph.

These players usually signed only one item and did not spend much time outside of the signing tables mingling with the fans.

If searching for a player's autograph was not a fan's idea of a good time, fans could shop for baseball memorabilia one of the many tables set up in the convention.

In one section, a vendor sold autographed baseballs of such legends of the diamond as Harmon Killebrew, Joe Dimaggio and Ted Williams.

For the person with little cash, you could buy Cubs home and away jerseys for half price. They were practically a steal at \$30 a piece.

Some other intangibles for going to the convention were the games and entertainment. On Fri. night, the Cubs held a game of bingo for any fan interested in playing.

This led to about a thousand people playing bingo in a giant ballroom.

They gave away a variety of prizes to the winners. Some winners received autographed bats and

jerseys, while other received flags that flew over Wrigley Field during the season.

Saturday night was a more formal night of entertainment. The night began with the Second City Comedians doing impromptu comedy with some of the Cubs players.

Cub great Billy Williams standing up on stage mimed about what line to say next was a highlight of the show. The night ended with a dance in the ballroom.

All in all, the Cubs convention is a great time for avid young and old Cub fans alike.

Whether searching out an autograph or finding that piece of memorabilia that completes a set, it is an experience that should be enjoyed by all.

Basketball prepares for tournament

by Tony Ciampa

Get ready for March 2-3 at Wills Gymnasium when the JJC Wolves will be hosting the Region IV Division III Men's tournament. With the Wolves having such a great season over the past couple of months, the highlights have begun to become common.

On Feb. 13, JJC beat Harper

83-76 to run its overall record to 22-6 and tied with Rock Valley for overall first place in the N4C conference with a 6-2 record. It was the Wolves ninth win in ten games and third in a row.

Leading the Wolves to victory was Jason Chandler, who scored 15 of his 23 points in the first 10 minutes of the game. Also clipping in

was Jeff Agba, who had a double-double with 13 points and 13 rebounds.

During this time for glory, the wolves have spurred the competitors by going undefeated at home with a 13-0 mark.

The Wolves will finish their home regular season on Jan. 20 at 7 P.M. at Wills Gymnasium.

Seeing how the team has played over the last month at home has been intimidating to teams that are coming in on March 2-3 for the tournament.

Some highlights of the season have been the accomplishments of the individual players.

On Feb. 6, Dustin Smith became the all-time career assist-leader at JJC with 583.

His record, which is still growing, came in a 17-assist outburst against St. Xavier JV. His record erased Bobby Krahulik's (1992-94) mark.

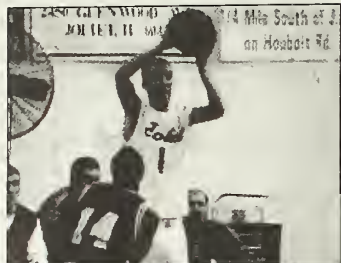
Markus Ford on Jan. 13 put in another great effort in a conference game with Rock Valley. Ford led all scorers that night with 29 points and 13 rebounds.

This effort helped lead the Wolves to an 82-73 victory that



The JJC baseball team practices inside.

photo taken by



The JJC basketball team practices inside.

**Region IV
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tournament.
March 2 and 3 at
Wills gymnasium.
Times to be
announced.**

Racing legend dies in Daytona 500

by Danae Billings

On Feb. 18, 2001, an American favorite was tragically lost. Dale Earnhardt, Sr. left a huge impact on NASCAR and fans alike.

"Undoubtedly, this is one of the toughest announcements I've personally had to make," said NASCAR president Mike Helton in a recent article. "After the accident in turn 4 at the end of the Daytona 500 we've lost Dale Earnhardt."

Earnhardt's death was number 27 in the history of the track, which opened in 1959. Earnhardt began the race in the seventh position and was competing for third when the accident occurred. This was Earnhardt's 23 Daytona 500 race.

Racecar driver Sterling Marlin bumped Earnhardt's number three car into the spin.

The accident occurred in turns three and four. Earnhardt lost control of the car and eventually collided with the outside wall at speeds up to 190 MPH.

Rescue workers rapidly began to administer oxygen and CPR. According to Dr. Steve Bohannon, Earnhardt never showed any signs of life.

"He had what I feel were life ending injuries at the time of impact," Bohannon stated.

He was immediately transported to Halifax Medical Center with his son Dale Earnhardt Jr. and wife, Teresa.

At about 8:00 p.m. ET, NASCAR director of operations, Kevin Triplett, made the announcement

of Earnhardt's death.

Earnhardt reportedly had a hand in beginning the memorabilia business for racing. His death, according to an employee of Racine Heaven in the Louisville Mall, will have a huge impact on marketing. Distributors have frozen sending out many products until the Earnhardt family decides what to do in this area.

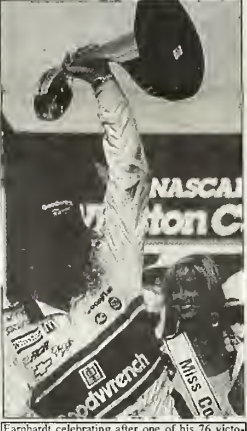
He was most well known for his style of driving. He was called "The Intimidator," "The Man in Black" and "The tough cookie." He gave his all into racing.

He was more than mean and tough on the track; he was also a winner who thought he could challenge the track each time he was out there.

Gossage said, "Athletes in other sports would be wise to follow Dale's model of what a champion is supposed to be."

He had great dignity both on the track and off."

In his career, Earnhardt started 675 races, won 76, and was in either the top five or top 10 in 109 races. In 1998, Earnhardt won the



Earnhardt celebrating after one of his 76 victories.

Daytona 500 for the first time in his illustrious career. Now, at the age of 49, one of the best-known motorsports figures is gone.

The death of Dale Earnhardt is heartbreaking for millions of racing fans around the world," said Eddie Gossage, general manager of Texas Motor Speedway.

Odds and Ends:

A-view from the Sidelines

by Adam Satorious

Commentary

Some friends and I were sitting around recently talking sports. This is pretty common since one of my friends is a sports-writer for a local paper. The following are some of my observations that came from that conversation.

The Chicago White Sox are overrated. Everyone knows it is pitching that wins championships and the Sox staff is in sad shape. Their starting rotation consists of two pitchers, James Baldwin and Cal Eldred, with dead arms, one of which (Eldred) has several seasons in his elbow.

Due pitcher, Kip Wells, cannot throw strikes and pitcher Jim Parquette cannot get past the fifth inning. Finally there is pitcher David Wells who is severely overweight and has a bad back, gout and a 380-year-old arm.

The mere thought of the Sox blowing Cleveland's door off like last season makes me laugh. The Sox look like a second-place team (and hat is only because they play in a very weak AL Central) with no hopes of a wild-card berth.

The Chicago Cubs are underrated. The Cubs starting rotation is solid with Kerry Wood, who is back at 100 percent.

They also have Jon Lieber, who is always good for a solid seven innings of pitching. Kevin Tapan and Jason Bere, whose injury problems seem to be behind them, are back in full force with Julian Tavarez who had a great season playing in Colorado in 2000.

Between the Cubs and Sox, the Cubs have the better starting staff by far but the Sox rule when it comes to the bullpen.

However, the Cubs weaker bullpen is still better than the Sox paper-thin starting rotation. Overall, it looks as though both teams will put up big offensive numbers. Look for both teams to make a charge at the playoffs but to both come up short.

The NFL is entertaining or stupid. Definitely the latter. The NFL is just bad football being played by players even the Chicago Bears, Cincinnati Bengals and Cleveland Browns did not want.

A sign at one of the games the first week said "XFL-Real Football for Real Fans!" More like "Bad Football for Real Idiots."

Anyone who is watching the XFL for the football aspect is wasting their time.

If you watch simply to be entertained, like the people who love watching the WWE, then you have the right idea. Watch for entertainment, not because you think it is good football because it is anything but.

Finally, we will talk hoops. The NBA is a joke these days so the college game will be our focus.

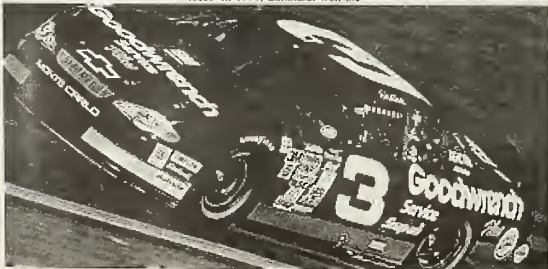
The best five teams in the country, in one particular order, are Duke, Illinois, North Carolina, Michigan State and Stanford.

That is not saying the Final Four will consist of four of these five teams but they have a better chance than anyone else. If I were coach, the one team I would hate to see as my opponents the most would be Wisconsin.

The Badgers make you pay to play their slow, boring style and just play more disciplined than their opponents. Someone asked me to other day if I thought Illinois could win the national championship. Absolutely.

This is by far the best team Illinois has ever had. They have the best depth and the most talent in the country, and their coach, Bill Self, is a master strategist. So yes, the Fighting Illini can and I think, will win the national championship.

It's spring! The NCAA Tournament is approaching and it's nearly basketball season. I'm excited—are you?



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Music swapping trend reaching final destination

by Michelle Tarrant

Napster's demise now looms above the head of every internet music junkie and Napster member. On March 2, the U.S. District Court ordered the site to remove songs from its directory three days after it is notified by their copyright owners. According to Hank Barry, CEO of Napster, the music-sharing web site will comply with the courts ruling, but won't give up the fight to maintain it's service.

Barry said Napster would continue to press its case in court and seek a resolution as it works to implement the court order. Napster will continue to seek a settlement with the record companies and to prepare its new membership-based service.

"Napster will follow the District Court's order," Barry stated on the Napster site. "Even before the court entered the order, we began making efforts to comply with what we believed to be the dictates of the Ninth Circuit's ruling."

The fight to keep Napster alive can also be fought by not only Napster employees, but Napster users as well. At <http://www.napster.com>, users have three different ways to help support the site.



Napster founder Shawn Fanning talks at a press conference in San Francisco February 12, a short time after a ruling by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals which said that Napster, the on-line music download service, must prevent subscribers from sharing copyright material. Photo courtesy of Napster.

Users can place a free call to their member of Congress and senator to let them know that they support the settlement proposed by Napster that ensures labels will be compensated.

Users can also urge Congress to get involved and pass legislation to resolve the dispute between consumers, labels and recording artists.

To reach Congress Napster has

set up a toll free number, 1-877-SHARING, to aid users who want to get involved.

Users can also join the Napster Action Network. The network enables users to let Napster officials know what members are willing to do to help the site. To become a member, go to Napster's site and click on Napster Action Network for information and member details.

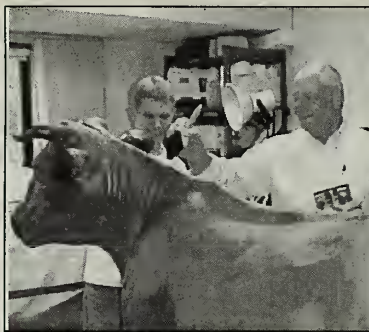
Finally, users can e-mail major record labels and voice their opinion and/or opposition on the music-sharing issue. Information on major labels and how to contact them is also at the Napster site.

According to Napster.com, the world's biggest record labels, including Universal Music, Sony Music, Warner Music, EMI and BMG first sued Napster in December 1999, claiming it was a haven for copyright piracy that would cost them billions of dollars in lost music sales.

The labels are required to provide lists of the material they want removed.

"As we receive notice from copyright holders as required by the Court, we will take every step within the limits of our system to exclude their copyrighted material from being shared," Barry stated.

JJC cow turns purple



The JJC "cow" shows off its new coat of purple paint on Feb. 22. Photo courtesy of JJC web site

The JJC Cow was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smerz. Smerz was 68 years old when he was graduated from the two year Agriculture Production & Management program at Joliet Junior College in May of 2000.

The couple purchased the cow from the New Lenox Statuary in New Lenox.

It has a thin, younger shape, and weighs approximately 150 lbs which is smaller and lighter than older cow models which have a fatter body shape.

In regard to the cow's price, both old or young have the same selling price of \$1,995. All cows purchased for charity get a \$500

discount.

According to Bill Johnson, the Agriculture instructor, Mr. Smerz was very unique because he was the oldest graduate from the department of Agriculture.

The Joliet Junior College cow is being painted under the direction of Joe Milosevich, faculty in the Fine Arts department. The cow is being painted in several stages.

The final stage is selecting a site on campus to display the completed cow.

The following artists took part in the painting of the Joliet Junior College cow: Joe Milosevich, John Earle, Michael Johnson, Christine Dytzych and Dan Soderbery.

National Women's History Month highlights progress

by Kaylee Van Hoose

Susan B. Anthony, Eleanor Roosevelt, Elizabeth Cady, Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem have all impacted the U.S. history of female evolution. This month celebrates the achievements of these and other women.

The theme for National Women's History Month, March 2001 "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision" emphasizes the joy in recognizing women's accomplishments.

Before 1970, women's history was rarely the subject of serious study. To address this situation, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma Calif. County Commission of the Status of Women initiated a "Women's History Week" celebration for 1978. The week of March 8 was chosen to make International Women's Day the focal point of the observance.

According to www.nwhp.org, in 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the national celebration to the entire month of March.

Since then, the National Women's History Month Resolution has been approved with bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

Two significant factors contributed to the emergence of women's history. The women's movement of the sixties caused women to question their invisibility

in traditional American history texts.

In addition, the movement also raised the aspirations as well as the opportunities of women and produced a growing number of female historians.

Women's history was also part of a larger movement that transformed the study of history in the United States.

History had traditionally meant political history, but by the 1970s the new social history began replacing the older style. Emphasis shifted to a broader spectrum of American life.

Since women rarely held leadership positions and until recently had only a marginal influence on politics, the new history, with its emphasis on the sociological and the ordinary, was an ideal vehicle for presenting women's history.

History of women's education, birth control, housework, marriage, sexuality and the child rearing is covered.

"Without question, our first inspiration was political. Aroused by feminist charges of economic and political discrimination...we turned to our history to trace the origins of women's second-class status."

-Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, historian.

Random Shuffling

by Kaylee Van Hoose



On Feb. 12, 1993, two 10-year-olds dragged two-year old Jamie Bulger two miles to a railroad yard, bludgeoned him with bricks, poured paint in his eyes and then left his body on the track to be cut in two by a train.

Eight years later, his killers are to be released at the age of 18 from detention.

I am a regular reader of People magazine. The fashion aspects, celebrity gossip and the best of human-interest stories always catch my attention. But in the recent March 12 issue, there's a story entitled "Fresh Tears: Eight years after her 2-year-old's murder, Denise Fergus faces the release of his young killers, now 18." I was devastated by the horrifying story of Jamie Bulger.

Jamie was one month shy of his third birthday when he was abducted from Strand Mall in Liverpool and then murdered by the two boys only 10 years old.

As I continued to read the arti-

cle, I was shocked to read that on Jan. 8 that a London High Court judge ruled that the killers are eligible to be released, be given new identities and anonymity for life to "protect them from reprisals and the ferocity of Britain's tabloids."

So, here's the deal. They are eligible for release and to be given new identities? So, what exactly was the punishment?

According to People magazine, the killers, Jon Venables and Robert Thompson, had access to tutors, computers, and video games while in custody. Sounds like punishment to me. Several reports indicate that there have been extensive efforts to help Jamie's killers make a successful return to society.

For example, Thompson had been taken on outings to the theater and countryside and to supermarkets to help him "overcome his fear of being recognized after his release."

Yes, more punishment.

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Clip-n-Save

by Michelle Tarrant



I love my cell phone.

And I hate everyone else's.

Yes. The age and era of communication at our fingertips is more than upon us. It's a way of life now. You can hear it every day. Ring! BEEP BEEP! Buzzzzzz.

The gentle beeps and boops of a distant song once forgotten, now a symbol of status blares out of someone's cell.

But, there is more than ringing and beeping going on here. I believe there is some secret and underlying competition between cell phone users.

Sound corny? Yes.

Many have thought my ideas and expressions are corny but I tell you, cell phone junkies are at war with each other.

With so many new cellular phones out on the market, it's hard to choose which one is just right for you. I purchased my groovy little Nokia phone about four months ago.

But, compared to the newest models unveiled for the New Year, my tiny connection to the world has become outdated.

People are lined up inside cellular phone stores everywhere looking for the latest and greatest model to buy. Usually the follow-up conversation with a companion after purchase of a new phone is

full of tense moments and angry jeers.

"See, look at this option, you can send e-mail, store numbers, call Bill Clinton's private number, build a nuclear reactor and make peace with Iraq on this baby," the purchaser boasts to his green-with-envy friend. "And it has 9,108,234 rings."

Usually these words are followed by a "oh" or a "mmm hmm" while the individual with the lacking options ponders suicide over his friends phone status.

And that brings us to the next competitive event in the Cellular Phone Olympics: The ring event. A year ago, a distant cell phone ring triggered interested glances along with ooooh's and ahhh's from people in the general area of a cell user.

Now, with the little buggers in the hands of every citizen, rings mean more. A lot more.

"Dah dah dah DUM dah dah dah DAAAAAAAAAAAAH!"

My cell phone blares the sounds of the Nokia tune across an infinite sea of students and faculty.

No one looks up. No one wants to see whose phone is ringing. GASP! No one cares!

Well, that's funny, I think. Maybe they're all deaf. Suddenly a

glorious yet, life-changing sound graced it's way in giant waits over everyone in the cafeteria. It sounded like sweet cherubs and angels harmoniously joined together in a mission to oust my now lame ring.

Everyone stops, looks and listens. The proud owner lets his cell ring out a few more melodious notes before answering his call in the dead silence of pure awe.

The second this man flips his phone shut, hundreds crowd him; he is adored by all.

"Where did you get this phone?"

"Was it really cheap?"

"YOU ARE SOOOO COOL NOW!"

Suddenly, I see how the game works. Cells aren't just for convenience anymore. They're almost like cars. The better it is, the more people want to know you and be you.

Ooops. Gotta go. My phone's blowing up.

But, remember this. I'm still satisfied with my plain little phone. Ol' rusty and I have been through some pretty tough times together. The competition may go on, but I won't give up on my purple Nokia.

At least not until the new one with an adjustable head comfort holder and awe-inspiring little headphone set comes out.

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New entry level positions for Bubba

With the days of Bill "Bubba" Clinton as a prominent figure in the public dwindling, I think it is time to point out some jobs Clinton could take to keep his face in the limelight.

A Jerry Springer-esque Talkshow Host Bubba! Bubba! Bubba! There is not a better job suited for Clinton. His charm and sensibility to the common man could shine through on television. His first show could be "Interns Gone Bad" or "Men in Power Who Cheat on their Wives for Publicity." Of course Clinton would never involve himself in breaking up a lovers spat on TV. He would be the what the spat is about. His final thoughts would consist of him biting his lip and asking the public how can people act in intolerable ways towards people they love.

Sigh of the times by Tony Ciampa

Head of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Clinton is best known for his voracious appetite for "Big Macs" and his infamous "I did not inhale" speech about smoking marijuana.

Having drug-sniffing dogs would become obsolete with Clinton on the job. I imagine Clinton running through the airport with a drug-sniffing dog trailing Clinton's nose to the confiscated bag full of drugs. A plus side to Clinton as head of the FDA is that confiscated food would be brought home with him instead of auctioned.

Band Leader of The Tonight Show He wowed us with his saxophone playing during his campaigning for president, so this seems like a perfect job for him. Jay Leno could still make the same type of jokes to Clinton about his sex life that he makes to Kevin Eubanks now. Clinton asking Leno what he did this weekend and Leno responding, "I had a conversation with my wife, you know the women who is about the same age as you at your house."

Clinton looks confused. "The women who sleeps next to you at night." Clinton is still confused.



"The women who doesn't speak to you." Now he knows who his wife is.

MTV News man One day Clinton would be sent out on assignment for the music television station and his guests would be Dr. Dre and Snoop Dog. His first words walking into the house would be "Hi, This is Bill Clinton talking with Dr. Dre and Snoop Dog. Let me start out by saying it looks a bit smoky in the room. Don't worry folks, I will hold my breath because I do not inhale."

An hour pass and all that is heard is the rustle of bags of chips.

In the mike that proverbial laugh comes bellowing out. His final words would be, "I love how chips feel crunchily between my toes."

Campaigner for New Spot Remover The jokes would never cease. If Bob Dole felt he was a big man for talking about taking Viagra, Clinton would solidify himself as the most courageous man alive. His commercial would be an instant classic.

Clinton would have to stand with bottle in hand scrubbing a blue dress until the color had faded. His catch-phrase could be "when you can't rub out the interim, rub out the spot with spot X."

Until Clinton makes a valiant return into the limelight with a new job, I would like to say one thing in mourning of his future disappearance.

I am gonna miss you Bubba!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Response to Coal City column

This letter is in response to your story, "Police in Coal City need to learn some manners," which appeared in the Feb. 21 issue of the Blazer. We take offense to many of the degrading expressions used to describe Coal City and your overall generalization of small towns. As residents of similar small towns in the Joliet Junior College district, we do not consider ourselves to be beneath people who grew up in larger cities, as there are advantages and disadvantages to either situation.

Your use of expressions such as "hick town," "Officer Billy Bob" and "trailer trash town" are prejudicial and unnecessary stereotypes that have no place in any type of serious newspaper. You destroyed your credibility as a "journalist" by using them.

Furthermore, you are just bla-

stantly wrong in your statement that the search was illegal. As you stated, the officer said, "Ladies, I'm going to ask you to step out of the car so I can search it."

In using this wording, he asked permission to search, and you granted that permission by voluntarily stepping out of the car and allowing him to do so. As we and any other person who grew up in one of those "hick towns" can tell you, you had every right to tell him no, and unless you gave him a just cause, he would have had to let you go on your way.

The only ignorance in this situation was yours.

You owe your readers an apology both for your biased statements and your inaccurate information. As it is not much of a story to begin with, pronouncing Coal City with a southern accent does

not add "flair" to your story.

Kim Nichols Frauli

JJC employee and alumna and

Dwight resident

Jennifer Kruck

JJC student and employee and

Braidwood resident

Column Response by Michelle Tarrant

In my attempt to explain a situation where I was pulled over and searched by a police officer in Coal City, I inadvertently offended many of the town's citizens. I would like to apologize for the tone of the story and the anger I misdirected toward the citizens of Coal City.

After speaking with village officials I have been assured that the stop and search, which I felt was inappropriate, will be investigated.

Is corporate America making economic nomads?

For a brief shining post WWII period, workers were treated like assets to be developed. For the last several years however, workers are now merely costs to be gotten rid of as soon as possible. More recently, Chicago area layoffs announcements since Nov. 2000 are as follows: Montgomery Ward, Chrysler, Lucent, Sara Lee, Motorola, Aetna, Textron/Delphi, Gillette, ADL Time Warner, Gateway, Union Pacific, Service Merchandise, March First, Brach's and Durbard Marine (Chicago Tribune, Jan. 25 and 30).

Corporate America is hell-bent in making economic nomads of us all. There is something fundamentally wrong with an economy in which one man's unemployment is another man's path to wealth.

According to the Chicago Tribune, factory job losses since April of 1998, have been \$80,000. Jobs are not disappearing; greedy, near-sighted opportunists are moving our jobs to countries with little or no worker/human rights and no environmental protection. How many products that we enjoy here are produced by near slave and child labor abroad? Is it our national interest to become a nation that produces nothing? If we keep deepening our dependence on foreign production, where will our children work? Would you like fries with that?

I wish I had a nickel every time former President Clinton trumpeted, "We've had 107 consecutive months of unprecedented economic growth!" growth for whom? How much of the current economic "boom" is due to two or more incomes per household and to jobs that demand workers be at work more than with family? How much is due to no one being home to be with children after school and

latchkey children? How much is due to increased overtime instead of much-deserved general wage increase? How much is due to increased family mobility of stability?

How much of the "boom" is due to the fact that we are the first generation to raise our children via daycare and with before/after school custodial care? The 2000 census reports that, for the first time, the majority of parents go back to work before their baby is even one year old.

How much is due to the government encouraging the transition away from direct parenting via tax breaks only for those who choose to raise their young children through a series of disinterested third parties i.e. daycare (IRS pub 503)? Ford recently bragged their factories would soon have 24-hour daycare. Our children deserve better. Prosperity without a purpose is really a lie, isn't it? For does it profit a nation if it were to gain the whole world but lose its children?

Everyone is replaceable by someone cheaper, so political participation is critical, now more than ever. At a recent JJC Brown Bag event entitled, "How Dne Person Can Make a Difference," Russ Corey lamented the fact that young adults are the least likely to participate in the political process. Young Americans of JJC, please hear these words: politics is way too important to leave to the politicians. Politicians will make decisions that impact your life, with or without you. The world is the "we the people" make it, so participate in forging a progressive, livable future, or we will have to keep giving our children excuses why we cannot be there for them even more so than we already do.

Richard Thomas
JJC Student

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender.

All letters should be kept to 300 words or less.

We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content.

Blazer

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Former student creates fun in the burbs

Skilnik's experiences at Joliet Junior College, and beyond, have given him the tools to build a successful business which is bringing a little bit of the big city to the suburbs.

JJC signs dual admissions agreement with Lewis U.

"Joliet Junior College and Lewis University have a long-standing reputation for educational excellence, both in the community, and nationwide. We are proud to partner with Lewis to offer another option to JJC students," said JJC President J.D. Ross in a recent press release.

OSSA information for March

Questions or information inquiries should be directed to
Anissa Jones at ext. 2755.



The Question Mark

[illegible]

www.questia.com

Ask the Question Marquis

A: Zut alors! I think my employer has tripped this one in. But, just by chance this is not how the case is, I will answer it briefly. Quæsta will have an extensive scholarly collection, and the full text of each book in our journal article is all online. You just enter your topic and then you can instantly search through any book. And many of the author's own sources are, too. You just enter "hyperlinks". So you can follow the writer's train of thought, if you like. Also, quotes, footnotes and bibliographies are all done automatically, and it will find most things. Quæsta can be used to more efficiently groom racchuses. Or such is my understanding. That may be confidential information, so don't go gossiping it about like a bunch of Montecuccio's concubines. Now I wish I hadn't told you.

*"There is no truer friend of passion than the vulnerable rejected lover.
You simply must play your cards correctly."*

A: In life, there is no such thing as a delete key. Q.E.D., there is no delete key for writing my column. What's done is done, what's said is said. Vive moi! (Long live me!)

[illegible]

q u e s t i a
Better Papers. Faster

St. Patty's: The day o' the Irish

by Danna Billings

When asked about Saint Patrick's Day, most JJC students responded in much the same way. Seldom did anyone know about the holiday's true history.

"You wear green and have pretty shamrocks and tiny men hanging everywhere," said former student Eric Starkey.

Saint Patrick's Day is more than the fun leprechauns who have a shamrock sticking out of their hats as they hand you a nice big pot of shining gold. Though these things have become traditional celebrations, the holiday has historical roots much deeper than that.

Saint Patrick was the patron saint of Ireland, standing much taller than a leprechaun, who brought Christianity to the country. According to an article at www.living.yahoo.com, he is probably responsible in part for the Christianization of the Picts and Anglo-Saxons.

There are two popular legends

about Saint Patrick. One says he drove snakes out of Ireland, while the other has him using a shamrock to explain the concept of the Christian trinity.

The first Saint Patrick's Day parade was not held in Ireland, but rather in the U.S. in 1737, in Boston.

In all actuality, Saint Patrick was a bishop who was successful at winning converts. According to Jerry Wilson, an author of St. Patrick's Day at www.wiltar.com, Patrick traveled through the country of Ireland and established monasteries, schools and churches to help him in his attempt to convert the country to Christianity.

He stayed in Ireland for 30 years, and then he retired. He died on March 17 in AD 461. To this

day, Irishmen wear shamrocks in their lapels on that day, Saint Patrick's Day.

The first Saint Patrick's Day was held more than thousands of years ago. The holiday falls during the season of Lent.

Traditionally, families in Ireland would go to church in the morning and then celebrate in the afternoon. Since it was forbidden to eat meat during this season, the people would dance, drink and eat Irish bacon and cabbage. This holiday was originally meant to be a Catholic holy day, although it has turned into more of a secular holiday, and is celebrated by people of all cultural backgrounds.

The first Saint Patrick's Day parade was not held in Ireland, but rather in the United States in 1737, in Boston.

Today, we hold Saint Patrick's Day as a day to decorate with shamrocks, to look for tiny men bringing gold and to drink in an Irish pub. However, until the mid-

dle of the 1970s, Irish laws prohibited pubs from being open.

Some other common sights one may see on March 17 include leprechauns and three-leaf clovers. Green decorations adorn buildings as well as people. Some bars dye their beer green.

Clover-shaped food is sold at grocery stores, while green milkshakes are popular at fast-food restaurants. Green carnations are also sold.

Another traditional symbol is that of the Irish harp. It is a symbol of Ireland and can be seen on Irish flags, coins, the Royal British coat of arms and many Saint Patrick's Day decorations.

Saint Patrick's Day, though far from its original intent, is still observed as a holiday to celebrate Irish history.

All people, despite their cultural background, are encouraged to participate in the celebration of this holiday.

Saint Patrick's Day Trivia

*Saint Patrick has his own color-Saint Patrick's Blue. Green came into use in the 19th century.

*It is a legal holiday in Ireland. Schools, post offices, and banks are closed.

*Mass is held in the morning followed by a parade.

*It is the begins a three-day-period of devotion.

*Bread, fish, corned beef, cabbage and shepherd's pie and Guinness make up traditional Irish meals.

*There are more Americans of Irish descent than native Irish.

*Holiday festivities can begin up to a week before Saint Patrick's day.

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Register for Summer and Fall Classes on April 5th.

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Office, located in the Student Center, D-1010, or call (815) 280-2756.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The **JJC Metalsmithing Class** will be exhibiting and selling their: handcrafted earrings, pendants, bracelets, necklaces, beads and ornaments in gold, silver, copper, brass, niobium, glass and semi-precious stones.

Phyllis Weiland will host "Inner Conversation" D-2001 March 16 at 7 p.m.

The **JJC Jewelry Class Handcrafted Jewelry Sale** will be held in the JJC Cafeteria March 14 -15, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The new exhibit, **Illinois Community College Art Students Jarro's Critique**, will be in the Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery

March 16 at 1 p.m. **Geoffrey Bates**, Assistant Curator at the Illinois State Museum/Lockport, will present a juror's critique.

The **Illinois Theatre Association Undergraduate Theatre Festival** will be held in the Fine Arts Theatre March 17 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Round pianist: **Wen-Ting Huang**, will be part of the **Musica Viva Recital** in the Fine Arts Theatre March 18 at 3 p.m.

The International Film Forum presents "Men with Guns" March 15 at 7 p.m. in D-2002.

The **Epicurean Club** will host a bake sale from 11-1 p.m. in the

Cyber Café March 15.

St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated at JJC with a buffet in the cafeteria on March 15 from 11-1 p.m.

OSSA presents **Second City** March 15 from 7-10 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre.

Tickets are free to students and \$10 to outside ticket buyers. For information contact the JJC web site or call the OSSA office for details.

The **JJC Greenhouse** is having a spring bulbs and pansies sale in the Greenhouse from 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. For information on prices call ext. 2511.

Horoscopes

by Matt Packard

Aries

Aries will pile five dudes in a pinto and drive through the seven-mile drive-thru at McDonald's and pile drive you.

Taurus

Don't let the Chicago Enforcers' miserable season get you down. Just wait 'til next ye...oh yeah, nevermind.

Gemini

Your power rating: 6.

Cancer

Dude, is that your girlfriend in that "Girls Gone Wild" commercial? Cause I swear that looks like her.

Leo

After a tremendous struggle, you will finally win the World Wrestling Federation Intercontinental Championship.

Virgo

As you tire this week of constantly getting knocked back to square one, you will manage to wind up at square zero.

Libra

Libra: Remember when Screech won the Miss Bayside Beauty Pageant? Yeah, that one's gonna be on next Thursday.

Scorpio

Yo, Scorpio's feelin' those lighters.

Sagittarius

Man, that Weezer show was rad! What a great concert! You really gotta come with us next time.

Capricorn

You will be surrounded by jealousy. People will hold you good fortune against you. This is so unfair! They wouldn't be nearly as envious if they knew what was going to happen to you this weekend.

Aquarius

Man, I don't get this whole fashion-conscious guy thing. All these guys make fun of boy bands and then they walk around looking just like them. Remember when guys just didn't care? Man, it's li...oh...your horoscope...things look really ok!

Pisces

It seems like every time you've said "things just can't get any worse," they always have. The stars promise that next time things will not get any worse. They will just kind of stop.

March club meeting dates and times

Association of Criminal Justice Students

March 15

1:30 p.m.

B-2005

Architecture & Construction Student Organization

March 20

5:30 p.m.

T-1039

Chess Club

March 15, 22, 29

5-9:30 p.m.

Cafeteria

Epicurean Club

March 15

2:15

J-0010

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Friends Association

March 15

6-8 p.m.

C-2001

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship

March 21, 28

1-3 p.m.

G-2004

Judo Club

March 17, 24, 31

8-10 a.m.

March 14, 19, 21, 26, 28

9-11 p.m.

GYM

Newman Club

March 14

1 p.m.

C-Concourse

Main Campus

Parapsychology Club

March 16

7-9 p.m.

D-2001

Peers Promoting Wellness

March 16

Noon

D-1010

Phi Theta Kappa

March 14

6-7 p.m.

Bridge

Role Playing Club

March 19

3-6 p.m.

Bridge

Soccer Club

March 17, 31

1-3:30 p.m.

Gym

Main Campus

Student Alliance

March 15, 22, 29

3 p.m.

Bridge



Renaissance Center Website:
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Aquabats-Myths, Legends Andrews-Who I am Dave Matthews-Everyday

Packard's CD Ratings:

- ***** - Excellent
- **** - Great
- *** - Good Tunes
- ** - Not worth the \$15
- * - Not worth the wax

by Matt Packard

The Aquabats Myths, Legends, and Other Amazing Adventures Vol.2

The cover art claims that this album is from the "world's bestest super buddies." This essentially sums up the Aquabats. They are childish, silly, ridiculous, idiotic and more fun than any band I can think of. This group of evil-fighting super dudes continues to mesh enough garbage to wind up with a valuable piece of art. Most of the album is more of the same catchy, bouncy, Devo meets Reel Big Fish style. While it is their least entertaining collection, it contains two

of the super raddest songs ever! "Pool Party" actually contains the lyrics: "Pool party baby! It was a cool party/ Cool pool party/la la la..." "Marvelous!" I Fell Asleep on My Arm" follows three tracks later. My face hurt the first three times I listened to this. It is an impeccable style parody of Kom, Limp Bizkit, Rage Against the Machine, etc. except that the Bat Commander is screaming about his numb arm for four minutes.

It really has to be heard to be appreciated. Even if you would prefer spending \$12 on wrapping paper to purchasing an Aquabats record, these two songs are at least worth checking out online somewhere.

The rest of the album is a wise purchase for anti-negativity helmet wearing cadets only!

Jessica Andrews Who I am

**

Jessica's latest single, "Who I Am," is the best song she has ever recorded. It is introspective, positive, assuring and singable. It has hiked up the singles charts and is now (what seems like 53 months later) followed by the album of the same name.

I will never understand this popular marketing strategy. In recent years, artists have been feeding us singles (via video and radio) from upcoming albums far too early for casual fans to maintain interest until the album is finally available. If the song, "Who I Am," has run its course with you, you probably have no use for the album. It is the only song of its kind or quality on this disc. There are plenty of nice fillers for the country album, but there is nothing else here to get attached to. Jessica is a fine singer and a charming girl who seems to have trouble feeling these stale lyrics and dead end ideas. She deserves better material and better promotion than a two-month gap between a remarkable

single and an album that was not worth the wait.

Dave Matthews Band Everyday

** 1/2

Dave Matthews Band is accused of selling out.

Prosecution: America's favorite "jam band" (by default) has released an album of three-minute singles. They allegedly scrapped a much darker, much more sincere version of this album and hired pop guru Glen Ballard to create this mess. Songs like "The Space Between" will do very well on the radio, but will drive Dave's "Abercrombie messes dreadlocks" core audience to depression.

Defense: This is the bands last album with RCA. They didn't want to do another album of "more of the same."

While some of the die-hards might stand on the wrong side of songs like "I Did It," a whole throng of new fans will stand on the other side and open up to this

talented band.

Prosecution: So, are they aspiring to run the Britneys and Backstreet Boys out of their corner for the good of music? Or are they trying to cash in again? There is virtually no interplay between the musicians, no sax or violin solos, and the songs stand alone as very separate creations rather than as one flowing album.

Defense: They are certain to give these songs new life on stage. They always do. They built this band and its community the right way. They tour endlessly, and care ardently about their music. It is unlikely that they had a sudden change of heart and/or a need to be wildly popular in the mainstream again.

There is nothing wrong with writing an obvious and catchy album. Fans need not panic. Everything is going to be just fine.

The Verdict: UP TO YOU.

** 1/2 (with potential to grow to 4 in time)

Got an album you'd like reviewed? Want to tell me to get a real job?

E-mail me at OnikNia11@aol.com

Students win 4 art jurors awards

by Matt Furlane

Several area artists will have their works displayed at the Illinois Community College Juried Art Exhibition which will be hosted by Joliet Junior College's Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery. The exhibit will be displayed from Feb.19 to March 16.

JJC students had 35 works accepted and received four of eight Juror's Awards.

"Are students usually do pretty well...this is a better than average year," said gallery director and art teacher Joe Milosevic.

"We typically submit more 2D works than 3D. It's more of a 2D than a 3D show because it's easier to move and transport artwork."

Juror's Awards were given to: Renee B. Harrison of Joliet for a mixed media collage; Antonio

Padilla of Joliet for a marker on foamboard drawing; Stephen Dunne of Plainfield for a computer generated image; and Veronica Mendez of Romeoville for a mixed media drawing/sculpture.

Geoffrey Bates, Assistant Curator at the Illinois State Museum Lockport, will present a juror's critique at 1 p.m. March 16 in the gallery.

Of the 256 entries submitted from 12 community colleges, 77 works from 10 community colleges were accepted for display.

Other artists on display include: Roger Carlson, Erin Fitzpatrick, Jason Pomoryn, Audrey Shaddon and James K. West, all of Joliet; Melissa Bradford of Shorewood; Allison Macier of Plainfield; Denis Kruk, Sara Grieff, Allison Mulderink and

Alan M. Wallie of Morris; Christine Dytch of Frankfort; Angela Murray of Wilmington; Regina Homering, Paul Stephenson and Ben Ward of New Lenox; Vaume J. Hughbanks of Crest Hill; Karen Ventura of Bolingbrook; Michael Johnson of Dwight; Damon Kielma and Warren Miller of Channahon; Jennifer Lambert of Minooka; Gloria E. Moses of Romeoville; and Lee Mitidiero of Lockport.

Other colleges that participated in the art exhibition included: College of DuPage, Daley College, Danville Area Community College, Illinois Central College, Kankakee Community College, Morton College, Parkland Community College, Rend Lake College and Southwestern Illinois College.

Illinois Theatre Association hosts festival at Main Campus

The Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department will host the Illinois Theatre Association Undergraduate Theatre Festival from 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at the Main Campus.

This annual event provides an opportunity for theatre students at Illinois four-year institutions and community colleges to learn from each other and exchange ideas.

Also they will share their work through workshop participation and the performance of scenes from plays and musicals.

The public is welcome to attend. Admission is free.

For more information, call (815) 280-2200.

Illinois Theatre Association
Undergraduate Theatre Festival
is March 17 from 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. The public is welcome and admission is free.
For details call 2200.



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JJC's Wolves baseball team looks forward to great season

by Tony Ciampa

As winter weather dissipates, a strange obsession with leather gloves begins to occur throughout the region. That's strange occurrence is known as baseball. At JJC, baseball is known for its winning. In the past 12 season, the Wolves have won 30 or more games every year.

This year's goal is 500 career wins for JJC Head Baseball Coach Wayne King. In his career, King has won 468 games as the all-time winning head baseball coach at JJC.

"It would be exciting and an honor to reach that 500 victory milestone," said coach King.

Last season, the Wolves had a late season surge to keep their record around .500 by going 31-34. They earned a birth into the 2000 National Junior College Athletic Association Division III World Series in Batavia, NY, by beating Owens Community College in a



The JJC Wolves Baseball team in action

best-of-three series.

"It was a real tribute to the players and how they turned things around and started playing well during the end of the regular season into the playoffs," said coach King. "Although we didn't play as well as we wanted to in the World Series, we made it to New York and

Photo courtesy of Athletics that was something positive."

The Wolves will be fielding one of its youngest teams in recent years. Game are seven everyday players from last year. Some of the everyday players who will be returning are Jason Vitas from Joliet Township High School and Eric Waxweiler from Lockport

High School. Vitas led the team last year with 21 stolen bases out of 22 attempts. Known for his versatility, Vitas may be used in the outfield, infield and as a pitcher. Waxweiler was a starting outfielder by the end of last year.

"Jason's versatility is a key to us this year," said coach King. "His mobility will help us out. He will spend a lot of time in center field. We always like to be as strong up the middle as possible."

Returning as the starting premier pitcher for the team is Patrick Molinari from Plainfield High School. Molinari posted a record of 5-2 and a team low ERA of 1.82 in 64 innings. During the year his strike-out to walk ratio was 68 to 33.

"We're a team that is going to have to play together in order to be successful this year," said Molinari of the team's chances of winning in the upcoming season.

"Pat will carry the load for us this year," said King. "He had a

great ERA last season and will pitch most of our important games this spring. He has two fine pitches—the slider and fastball—which can consistently get hitters out."

The combination of Ryan Cougill and Mike Maher at second base and shortstop will make for some spectacular double plays this season. Cougill was the Co-Interstate Eight-Conference Player of the Year last spring at Reed-Custer High School in Bradswold.

He also won Herald News all-area first team honors. Maher was starting shortstop at Joliet Catholic Academy last year and showed the potential to earn him the starting position for the beginning of the year.

Looking forward to the season, coach King said, "It looks like we could be floating around the .500 level for a major portion of the season, but we should have the capability of getting better as the season progresses. This group is tremendously coachable."

JJC men's basketball team falls short



JJC Wolves team member is wide open for the ball during the final game of the season.

Photo courtesy Athletics

by Tony Ciampa

On March 2-3, the JJC Wolves men's basketball team played two of their best games of the year in the Region IV Division III Tournament at Wills Gymnasium.

The Wolves played themselves into the finals of the Tournament by beating the College of Dupage 80-79 in overtime, and Anaheim lost 84-81 to Rock Valley in the finals.

In the semi-final game against College of Dupage, sophomore guard Jason Chandler stole the ball and went the length of the floor to convert a lay-up and free throw with :08 seconds left in overtime to seal the victory for the Wolves. From the very beginning of the

game, the Wolves seemed to have their hands full. The Chaparrals lead 18-2, but the Wolves came back to tie it up at 70-70 at the end of regulation. Helping the Wolves into the finals was a phenomenal night of three-point shooting. In the game, JJC shot 14 of 38 from behind the three-point line. The leading scorers were Jason Staneford and Markus Ford, each with 17 points a piece.

In the championship, the Wolves trailed throughout the game. At one point in the second half, they were down 54-33. Trailing by double digits with three minutes left in the game, the Wolves put together a run to cut the lead to 84-81 after a Ford three-

pointer. The game would end with the Wolves never getting closer.

Dustin Smith led the team with 21 points and 7 assists. Putting in an all-around effort was Chandler with 14 points, 7 rebounds, 5 assists and one steal before fouling out with minutes left in the game.

Even though the Wolves lost, they had a great season by going 25-7 overall and 16-2 at Wills Gymnasium.

This year was the most wins by the men's basketball team since the 94-95 season when the team went 28-4. Making the all-tournament team for the Wolves were Smith and Chandler. This was Smith's second all-tournament selection of the year.

Where is your baseball team going to be in 2001?

by Adam Satorius

This being my third year at JJC, I have realized some things about people who are, or claim to be, baseball fans. Those who don't root for the Cubs, White Sox or Cardinals are almost always "fans" of the New York Yankees fans or Atlanta Braves supporters since 10 years ago, when they were two of the worst baseball teams.

Many people say they root for New York or Atlanta because those teams win year-in and year-out. That is a lame excuse to cheer for anyone. What you are saying is, "I like the Yankees (or Braves) as long as they are winning, but if the Montreal Expos were the best team every year, I would be a huge Expos fan."

Show some loyalty to the area in which you live and start cheering for the Cubs or White Sox. Even cheering for the rival Cardinals or Brewers is better than rooting for New York or Atlanta.

Now, on to my predictions for the 2001 season.

AL East: 1. New York Yankees, 2. Boston, 3. Toronto, 4. Baltimore, 5. Tampa Bay.

The Yankees addition of pitcher

er Mike Mussina to their three consecutive World Series championships only strengthens their quest for a fourth. Can anyone in the AL East step it up and challenge the Yankees? Perhaps Boston, which added slugger Manny Ramirez and a slew of solid pitchers in attempt to break New York's stronghold on the division and entire American League.

Toronto is a solid club that will stay in the race through August but then drop out, while Baltimore and Tampa Bay wonder why playing the season is even necessary.

AL Central: 1. Cleveland, 2. Chicago White Sox, 3. Detroit, 4. Kansas City, 5. Minnesota

The Indians were a little upset at being dethroned as division champions after winning five straight from 1995 to 1999. That said, they will reclaim the title from Chicago this season. Cleveland signed slugger, Juan Gonzalez to replace the departed Manny Ramirez, while the pitching staff finally had a chance to get healthy this off-season.

Chicago's addition of David Wells doesn't make them better than last season. Detroit and

Kansas City are two good, young ball clubs with potential to make the AL Central very interesting. Minnesota is the best minor league triple-A team in the majors.

AL West: 1. Oakland, 2. Seattle, 3. Texas, 4. Anaheim. The Oakland A's became stronger this winter, adding Johnny Damon to their potent lineup. That has to make them the favorites to repeat as division champs. Seattle may have actually become better, despite losing Alex Rodriguez to Texas.

Their pitching staff is incredible and if Oakland falters at all, Seattle will be right there to take the title away. Texas might break the major league record for most runs scored this season with the additions of the aforementioned Rodriguez and former Atlanta slugger, Andres Galarraga. Anaheim lost star Mo Vaughn for most, if not all, of the upcoming season to a leg injury. This is a pretty good, young team, but without their leader and best player in Vaughn, it will probably be a long season in Anaheim.

NL East: 1. Atlanta, 2. New York Mets, 3. Montreal, 4. Florida,

5. Philadelphia.

Again, this division will be a good race between the Braves and the Mets with the Braves winning out in the end like they always do. A young talented Montreal team could live up the picture a bit, and could be a scrappy Florida club. Montreal has the best player in baseball in Vladimir Guerrero, so that alone makes the Expos interesting. Florida, won't challenge for the division crown, but they will be the team that ruins it for the Mets at the end of the season.

NL Central: 1. St. Louis, 2. Chicago, 3. Cincinnati, 4. Milwaukee, 5. Pittsburgh, 6. Houston.

The Cardinals will be a very good team this season. The other five teams could all be very good or they could all be very bad. The only team with enough pitching depth and offensive capability to sustain a race with St. Louis is the Cubs.

Expect low to mid-60s home run totals from both Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire in a very tight race for the division crown. Cincinnati's pitching won't be able

to match St. Louis' or Chicago's and the Milwaukee Brewers are too inconsistent. Pittsburgh has a lot of young talent, but can't ever seem to put it all together. Houston stinks.

NL West: 1. San Francisco, 2. Los Angeles, 3. Arizona, 4. Colorado, 5. San Diego.

This is the best division in baseball. All five teams have a good case on why they will be division champ.

I'm going with San Francisco. The Giants had the best record in baseball last year before bowing out to the New York Mets in the division playoffs. Los Angeles, Arizona and Colorado have all improved. San Diego stayed with what they had last season, which is why I see them struggling a bit this year.

As for a World Series prediction, my gut says go with the Yankees, but just to be different, I'll say Boston over San Francisco in six. It should be a great season and both of our Chicago teams should be involved in tight races, so make sure to get out to the ballpark this summer and root on the Cubs or Sox to victory.

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Students celebrate holistic wellness

by Danae Billings

More than 2500 flyers have been handed out advertising Joliet Junior College's Wellness Week. The events include two days of seminars and another day that features area vendors.

This is JJC's sixth annual Wellness Week. It kicks off on April 9 and ends on April 10. Offices for Student Services and Activities and the Office of Holistic Wellness sponsor the event.

"Wellness is such a big area and encompasses our whole life," said Pam Dilday, sponsor of the event. "In order for someone to be healthy, they have to look at all the areas of their life including nutrition, occupation, social, emotional, physical, intellectual, environmental and spiritual."

Several seminars are planned for the event, and according to

Dilday, will reflect a person's mental and physical health. The actual seminars are scheduled for April 9 and 10.

"There really should be something for everyone and a chance to learn about a lot of wellness related topics and organizations."
-Pam Dilday

Other fun features at the events are massages, demonstrations, screenings, product information, agency information, medical resources, alternative health care information and much more.

"The seminars have been planned based on survey results from previous wellness events," stated Dilday.

Some seminars will highlight speakers such as Brenda

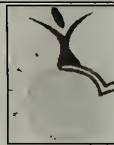
Guendling, JJC officer Joe Sikora, Elisabeth Lindsa, Chef Kyle Richardson, Annissa Jones and Dr. Steven Holcomb. The seminars are open to everyone, students, staff and anyone interested. No reservations are necessary.

Dilday stated that the seminar topics were "based on ideas that students expressed interest in."

On April 11, the Wellness Fair will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the bridge. It will have about 30 vendors from various facilities. They range from social service agencies to day spas.

"There really should be something for everyone and a chance to learn about a lot of wellness related topics and organizations," Dilday said.

The seminars are open to everyone at no cost. For more information, contact Pam Dilday at (815) 280-2202 or by email at pdilday@jcc.cc.il.us.



-April 9 seminars are scheduled for 8:30, 10, 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

-April 10 seminars are scheduled for 9, 10, 12 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Massages, demonstrations, screenings, agency and product information, medical resources and alternative healthcare will be featured.

New clothing store trend makes its debut Joliet

by Michelle Tarrant

A new clothing store has hit the Joliet area with a bang and with promising success. With retail clothes usually too "pricy" for the normal consumer, most of us gals and guys wait for the big clearance or decide to do our shopping at Super-K instead.

Plato's Closet is a new breed of clothing stores that has recently opened at 2400 Cotton Farm Road in Crest Hill. The store will buy and trade old clothing of the best name brands to customers.

"I think it's a good idea for people who can't afford clothes that are new on the floor," said 18-year-old Leah Day. "I would probably bring my old stuff there and buy some new things."

However, Plato's has very strict policies on what clothes can and can't be traded or bought by the store. Any jeans with leg zippers or that are tapered will not be bought. And clothing more than two years old or clothes that are currently in style will be purchased either.

Some students and prospective customers don't think the new store geared toward teens and young adults is for them.

"Stores like Old Navy and Gap aren't really that expensive," said student Amy Dell. "I would rather buy my clothes new."

Still, for some, this less expensive idea is a way to keep up with trends without having to pay a "pretty penny."

"I can't wait to go check it out," said 20-year-old Jim Geeting. "I am broke and this store might just work for me."

Although in the past few years thrift stores have gained a surge in popularity among young adults, the idea of buying newer, used clothing seems uninteresting.

"If you're going to thrift or buy old clothes, you have to go vintage," said 20-year-old Karlene Melton of Mokena. "You can't thrift new clothes."

For those interested in trading or buying clothes from Plato's just keep in mind that they pay on the spot and not all items are accepted. The facility pays on condition, brand, style and demand.

Hours through April 17 are M-F 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m. After April 17 hours are M-F 10 a.m.-8 p.m. For information call Plato's Closet at 815-577-2726.

Don't forget!
Student trustee elections are April 4 and 5.
Voting will be held at the Main Campus.

Instructor Doug Oxborow remembered by college

Douglas F. Oxborow, Director of Choral Music and Professor of German at Joliet Junior College since 1980, died suddenly March 28.

Oxborow was born November 26, 1941 in McGill, Nevada to Fred and Vilate Oxborow. He later served a mission in Austria for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He received a master's degree from Brigham Young University and was married to Chris Marie Bell in St. George, UT in 1972.

Jerry E. Lewis, Chair of the JJC Fine Arts Department, described Oxborow as an excellent choral director, vocal teacher and a good friend. He also taught German in the English and Foreign Language Department.

"Doug will be greatly missed, not only because of his excellent teaching and choral conducting skills, but also because he was a kind and wonderful man," said Lewis in a press release to staff and faculty at JJC.

According to his co-workers, he was respected by students and colleagues and was especially known for the Madrigal Dinners and the "Music...and a Taste" event.

Oxborow's teaching duties also included Applied Vocal music (private lessons), Class Voice, Fundamentals of Music and Exploration of Music Literature. Through his dedication and participation in events, he was very active in the Fine Arts Department.

He held the rank of Lt. Colonel in the Army Reserve and was a Bishop in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He was also a member of the Joliet State High Council.

According to the Herald News obituary, he found great joy in ser-



Douglas Oxborow
Photo courtesy of JJC

vice to God, love of family, love of country and music.

The Fine Arts Department is establishing the Douglas F. Oxborow Choral/Vocal Scholarship to honor and celebrate the life of Oxborow.

"He was a gentle spirit who always had time to counsel his students and friends. God must have had a very special opening for a choir director to have called Doug at this time," stated Lewis.

He is survived by his wife, Chris Oxborow; his children, Melissa, Jeremy, Jonathan, Andrew, Marc, David and Leah; his granddaughter, Jessie; his parents, Fred and Vilate Oxborow; and his sisters, Bonnie Christensen and Deanna Oxborow.

Wake services were held April 1 at the Blackburn-Giegerich-Sonntag Funeral Home in Joliet. Church services were held April 2, at 10 a.m. at The Chapel Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Joliet.

Contributions can be sent to the Fine Arts Department at JJC with attention to Douglas F. Oxborow Scholarship.

Clip-n-Save

by Michelle Tarrant



"I'm a SURVIVDR! I'm not gonna give up!"

The echoes of the new hit single by Destiny's Child waltz across the radio. What a perfect time to release this song. I mean hey, sweeps are coming up.

By sweeps, I mean TV sweeps week. Where the best of the best of television shows headline for the top rated spot among viewers.

I can predict it already. I already love this show more than The Simpsons. Yes, it's SURVIVOR.

Ok, people. I already know what you're thinking. You either love the show or you more than hate it. You despise it.

At first, I thought the show was hyped up just a bit too much. After growing up in the MTV generation of Real World and Road Rules reality shows, Survivor just seemed like some old fart's answer to their lack of reality TV.

Well at a newspaper internship I held last summer, all the ladies in the office would gather around my editors desk and rant, rave and gossip about the future of the current Survivor contestants. Not being one to keep my mouth shut and my opinion secret, I yearned out more



Castaway Jerri appears happy looking at her final days on Survivor. Photo from CBS

about the show, so I could jump into the thick of these post-breakfast talks.

So, one night after work I plopped my bottom down on the couch and flipped on CBS to catch an episode of Survivor. As the show went on, several numbing thoughts came to my head.

"Jeez! All this show does is promote the evil in mankind and the sneaky-ness of fellow man," I

thought.

As the show went on, I started becoming irked at a few of the show's contestants. That pesky truck driver lady, the annoying 80-year-old ex-Navy Seal and especially the smug and constantly naked Richard Hatch.

As the episode ended and I saw that none of the folks I hated had been voted off I came to a shocking conclusion. I love to hate these people.

Yeah, it felt pretty good. Sitting there at the TV and shouting expletives at a bare-bottomed Hatch. I was actually letting a lot out of my system.

So I tuned in faithfully every week to see if the people I hate were kicked off for good and to see if my wish for who should leave would actually come true.

Now a new season has started and I love hating these idiots too. I really, really, really hated Jerri and I thank the Gods above that she got voted off last Thursday night. Oh man, now who am I going to curse at every Thursday!

Well, I have to get going now. Survivor is going to be on soon. And I have to find someone else to hate, and quick.

Question of the Issue

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE CURRENT SPRING BREAK SCHEDULE, AND IF YOU COULD CHANGE IT WHEN WOULD IT BE?



I'm not really complaining about it because it's warmer. As long as we get spring break I'm cool with it.
Markus Ford, Sophomore



It's too late and right by finals. It should be in mid-March.
Alexis Jones, Freshman



It's so stupid! It's so late and more people already had theirs. The school should try to coincide with other schools in the area.
Mohammad Skaik, Sophomore



It's too Late and it should be two weeks earlier with all of the other schools. An earlier break would give us more time to study and prepare for finals too.
Shaun Deneen, Sophomore



It should be earlier and I think it should be longer too.
Susis Goodwin, Freshman



It seems to be a little late in regards to spring breaks at other schools. It's difficult organizing with your friends when everyone's break is different than yours.
Joe Kosok, Sophomore

Blazer Editorial

Attention students:

Spring break will be held this summer

Feeling burnt out? Overwhelmed with school, work, family and friends? Do you feel like you are long overdue for a break?

So now feels like a good time for some R & R, but guess what? We have some more waiting to do.

Spring break has come quite late this year. It falls just two weeks short of the anticipated final projects and final exams.

We missed the excitement of spring break with our friends from four-year institutions that was held on a rather "normal" time period.

Second-year students may remember last year's unbelievable

early spring break that was held in actuality, winter.

The end of February marked the eighth week of second semester and unsettling early to bask in the sun unless you like the sun reflecting off the cold snow.

From one extreme to the next, incredibly early to insanely late, we feel that JJC spring breaks are completely off the wall.

So, will it be the rest and relaxation we hope it to be? Well, if we can manage to play catch up with our chapters and keep up with our last minute projects while studying for exams, sure, spring break might just be exciting.

Letter to the editor

Centennial: Everyone's invited

I would like to respond to the January 31, 2001 Blazer issue, in which the "Question of the Issue" was, "Do you feel that the JJC Centennial Celebration affects you as a student and do you feel that JJC has taken initiative to include students in the celebration?"

It seems there is a population of students who don't know about the Centennial, who feel uninvolved in the Centennial or who don't know what the Centennial is exactly.

Unfortunately, even when we think that we have covered all bases in putting the word out about the Centennial, there is inevitably someone who doesn't get the information.

A year and a half ago, the Centennial Task Force marched in the 2nd Annual Joliet Christmas Parade with JJC students. Each participant in the parade received a Centennial sweatshirt. Additionally, we all went out for pizza after the parade.

In the past year, we have written numerous press releases about Centennial events, held monthly Centennial receptions, established a Centennial website (www.jjc2001.org) and held a Centennial Artwork Competition. The Centennial Artwork Competition brochures were on racks throughout campus and the competition was open to JJC students.

In addition, the Blazer has written several articles about the Centennial, most recently inform-

ing readers about the Centennial Rome to Athens Celebration trip scheduled for June.

In January the Joliet Region Chamber, of Commerce and Industry honored JJC and co-recipients Joliet Township High School with the Salute to Industry Award.

The Herald had a wonderful front-page story about the college and the event. The Student Alliance was invited to attend this event.

Last month, the United States Postal Service was on campus celebrating with JJC as we unveiled the Community Colleges stamped envelope. Senator Dick Durbin and Congressman Jerry Weller were among the dignitaries who attended. We held this event on the Bridge so that students could share in this historic occasion.

In the upcoming months, we have the Burial of the 2001 Time Capsule on Sept. 11 and "The Moving Wall" Vietnam Veterans Memorial from Sept. 22-28. Each of these events brings an opportunity for JJC students to participate.

I invite all JJC students to become part of the JJC Centennial.

Think of your participation as an opportunity to celebrate the history, as well as the future, of your community college. Together, we can celebrate 100 years of excellence in education.

-Lisa A. Hellman
JJC Centennial Celebration events Specialist

Look for the last
issue of this
year's *Blazer* on
May 9.

What college needs to be is a registered trademark of Elmhurst College

Chili cook-off, job fair and spring break

JJC has scheduled a **Chili Cook-off Challenge** open to all students, staff and faculty at the Main Campus on April 26 at 2 p.m. Contestants are encouraged to bring 2 quarts of their own chili. Rules and entry forms are available from Chef Fred Ferrara in J-0048 or by calling ext. 2529.

The **Student Horticulture Association** is having a Landscape Seminar April 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Several speakers are scheduled to attend. For information call ext. 2276.

The **Joliet Regional Job Fair** will be April 4 at JJC's Main Campus from 1:30-6 p.m. Several employers from the Joliet area will be in attendance. For more information contact the JJC web site.

The **Greenhouse** is having a bulb sale of daffodils, tulips, alliums and much more daily from 8 a.m. - noon and 1-4 p.m. For more information call ext. 2511.

OSSA and Holistic Wellness are sponsoring **Holistic Wellness week 2001** April 9-11. Many events are scheduled daily. For

information call ext. 2202.

The **International Film Forum** presents "The Navigator" at 7 p.m. in D-2002 on Main Campus.

The **Brown Bag Lecture** series presses on with a lecture entitled "Earth Day" at the Main Campus in J-0006 on noon.

The **JC Players** present "Seduced" in the Fine Arts Theatre at 8 p.m. April 5-7. Tickets are available to students, staff, faculty and the general public. For infor-

mation call the Fine Arts Line or contact the JJC web site.

The **OSSA President's Open Forum** will be held in the cafeteria from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. April 10.

SPRING BREAK BEGINS APRIL 13! **NEED WE SAY MORE!?!?** Oh, yes we do. Please party responsibly. We don't want to see you on the Girls Gone Wild video.

The **JJC annual Poetry Reading** will be held in J-0006 at 2 p.m. April 24. For more infor-

mation call ext. 2202.

The **JJC Community Chorale** will hold a concert April 29 in the Fine Arts Theatre at 7:30 p.m.

Holistic Wellness has scheduled "Stress Relief Days" on the Bridge from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. April 10.

A new exhibit will be on display in the **Laura Sprague Art Gallery** May 1. The exhibit, Joliet Junior College Art Students Juried Art Exhibit, will be shown.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Joliet Junior College registration for summer and fall classes will begin at 8 a.m. April 5. Students are encouraged to register early for the best selection of classes.

Registration is open from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. - Mondays-Thursdays and 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fridays.

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The Academic Computing Department has purchased a new scanner that will scan slides and negatives as well as hard copy. The scanner is available for student use in E-1001. Students are encouraged to bring their own floppy or zip 100 disk. Also, when new equipment comes in, the department will be setting up an imaging station in the Cyber Cafe with a new iMac, Kensington, WebCam, HP scanner and CD-RW. For more information on these new devices contact Betty Zarske at ext. 2637.

JJC student gains experience at speech club

by Matt Furlane

Finding work in today's job market can be very difficult. Sometimes getting hired may come down to good communication skills and leadership abilities.

JJC sophomore Whitney Franklin, who is majoring in business and plans on going into engineering, is preparing now to get a job by participating in the local chapter of the speech organization called Toastmasters International.

"I joined so I could have a competitive chance in the job market and meet people from different backgrounds," he said.

The organization allows members to develop their speech and leadership skills by having each member give many kinds of



The first Toastmasters Club was formed on Oct. 22, 1924, in Santa Ana, Calif., by Dr. Ralph C. Smedley.

speeches and providing them with opportunities to lead.

"So far I've given three speeches. The icebreaker, to intro-

duce myself to the group. The second speech was to speak with sincerity, which is to learn how to use my emotions often in speech and

grab the audience attention. My last speech was about organizing my thoughts," said Franklin.

Members can perform as many speeches as they want with each successive speech focusing on a particular aspect of speaking and becoming more advanced.

Additionally speech competitions are held every year for members who want to compete locally, nationally and internationally. International competitions may include people from countries like Australia, Britain, and South Africa.

In addition to speaking, opportunities exist in every organization to hold positions with their own set of responsibilities for managing the group.

Franklin is currently vice pres-

ident of education and he is in charge of planning and contacting members for meetings.

The local chapter of Toastmasters called the "Jesters" meets three times a month at the Joliet Public Library.

Once on the second Wednesday of every month from 7-8 p.m. And on the first and third Saturday at 10 a.m. to noon.

Membership is open to everyone and current attendance is about 20 people per meeting from many age groups and backgrounds.

The first Toastmasters club was established on Oct. 22, 1924, in Santa Ana, Calif., by Dr. Ralph C. Smedley, who conceived and developed the idea of helping others to speak more effectively.

More were formed in 1932.

JJC organization meetings for April

Architecture & Design

April 17

5:30 p.m.

T-1039

Association of Criminal Justice

Students

April 19

1:30 p.m.

B-2005

Chess Club

April 12, 19, 26

5-9:30 p.m.

Cafeteria

Epicurean Club

April 19

2:15 p.m.

J-1010

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and

Friends Association

April 19

6-8 p.m.

C-2001

Graphology

April 6, 23

7-9 p.m.

B-1002

Intervarsity Christian

Fellowship

April 11, 18, 25

1-3 p.m.

G-2004

Judo Club

Saturdays

8-10 a.m.

Mondays and Wednesdays

9-11 a.m.

Gym

Native American Club

April 11

7 p.m.

TV Studio/Library

Newman Club

April 11

1 p.m.

C-Concourse

Parapsychology Club

April 20

7-9 p.m.

D-2001

Peers Promoting Wellness

April 6, 20

Noon

D-1012

Phi Theta Kappa

April 11

6-7 p.m.

Bridge

Role Playing Club

April 12, 23

3-6 p.m.

Bridge

Soccer Club

April 7, 21

12-2:30 p.m.

Gym

Student Alliance

April 5, 12, 26

2-5:30 p.m.

Bridge

Vet Tech Club

April 5, 12, 19, 26

3 p.m.

V-1016

Blazer meeting

April 11

2 p.m.

on the Bridge

Happy Easter.

Happy
spring.

Happy happy
everything!



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MTV helps fight hate crimes

by Michelle Tarrant

MTV and the youth of America are fighting for their rights. The "Fight for Your Rights Campaign Against Hate Crimes" is in full launch throughout the country and on March 31, several celebrities, college and high school students and families of victims of hate crimes gathered in Washington, D.C., to talk about the current bill being proposed to Congress.

A bipartisan group of congressional leaders introduced a new federal hate crimes bill that would add sexual orientation to the existing federal hate crime laws. If the bill is passed, the current Hate Crimes Prevention Act, that covers crimes committed on the basis of

race, religion, color and national origin, would also include gender, disability and sexual orientation.

According to Gay.com, the Senate passed a version of the bill last year on a 57-42 vote, but House leaders ousted the plan when the bill was in conference.

A Gallup poll conducted in 2000 showed that 72 percent of Americans believe hate crime laws should cover homosexuals, women and people with disabilities, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

Even if both houses manage to actually pass the bill, President Bush is unlikely to sign it, since he repeatedly said he is opposed to such laws during his 2000 election campaign saying that "all crime is a hate crime."

According to MTV.com, every day eight blacks, three whites, three gays, three Jews and one Latino become hate crime victims. Eighty-nine percent of young adults in America believe that hate crimes are a serious problem.

Many college and high school-age students don't know where to turn to help. At MTV.com, individuals can join the Fight for Your Rights Campaign in an effort to take a stand against discrimination. It is also suggested to e-mail President Bush and Congress expressing your thoughts and concerns on the passing of the new bill. At MTV.com, there is information on how people can volunteer to help fight discrimination and to help government officials become aware of hate crimes in America.

Horoscopes

by Matt Packard

Aries:

Why study for that test when you can just fill in A,C,D,C over and over. AC/DC rules!

Taurus:

Hypothetical question: You know that a certain Taurus is going to have his/her dreams crushed beyond recognition this weekend. Do you say anything?

Gemini:

You could be the walrus, you'd still have to burn rides off of people.

Cancer:

You are not alone. In one every 13,000 adults suffers from chronic bedwetting.

Leo:

Some say that "silence is approval." This does not explain why no one talks to you.

Virgo:

You're going to have to come up with better evidence than that to prove that Virgo is your baby's daddy.

Libra:

To err is human. To run into a sliding glass door more than once is just wrong

Scorpio:

It's time to regroup and get energized! Your album reviews and horoscopes are getting lamer by the issue.

Sagittarius:

Some say "it doesn't hurt to ask." These people never asked out that girl in your math class.

Capricorn:

Your ranking will be saved by your brutal non-conference schedule.

Aquarius:

You will thank him for the kind words before running home to look up "duncical."

Pisces:

Focus on finances. This would be a good time to dump your stock in Mit Ice Scraper.com.

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'Seduced' explores the surreal

The Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department will present the play 'SEDUCED' a searing examination of the "American Dream" focusing on a reclusive billionaire, named Henry Hackmore, in the final years of his life.

The play is based loosely on the lifestyle of the rich and famous aircraft founder Howard Hughes. At the end of his life he became paranoid, addicted to cocaine and died alone.

In the play Hackmore is flanked by two beautiful women, the mysterious Luna and the snappy Miami, and his ever present body guard Raul.

Raul assumes a benign tolerance which Hackmore sometimes finds unnerving.

At one point Hackmore starts to become suspicious of Raul when he asks him,

"Why does it seem like every nuance in your verbal patterns is designed to hide some sneaky truth? Like you're standing there watching me through a one-way

mirror when I can see you plain as day?"

In addition Hackmore covers his chair with plastic and himself with tissue in order to protect himself from germs.

"Henry is very much at the end of his days from all his abuses and excesses through the use of his money," said play Director Nicki Blowers.

"It kind of shows a parody of the American dream where you think money will make you happy when actually we all die the same- alone."

Katrina Miller of Morris who is the stage manager of the play thought Hackmore's life was ironic.

"He thinks he's in complete control of his life but he's in actuality not in any control whatsoever."

Show dates are April 5-7 at 8p.m. and April 8 at 2:30 p.m. The Fine Arts Theatre in "K" Building on the Main Campus.

Nichole Ciarlette of

Shorewood and Coral Peterson of Morris are serving as assistant stage managers. The cast members of SEDUCED are Katherine Brisick of Cresthill, Nick Simon and Geoff Zigrissi of Joliet and Jennifer Hughes of Plainfield.

SEDUCED was written by Sam Shepard author of 45 plays, 11 of which have won Obie Awards, and has appeared as an actor in 16 films. In 1979 he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama for *Buried Child*, and in 1984 he gained an Oscar nomination for his performance in *The Right Stuff*.

His screenplay for Paris, Texas won the Golden Palm Award at the 1984 Cannes Film Festival, and he wrote and directed the film *Far North* in 1988.

In 1986 he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and in 1992 he received the Gold Medal for Drama from the Academy.

In 1994 he was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame.



Nick Simon as Henry (sitting), Geoff Zigrissi as Raul (center), Katherine Brisick as Luna (left) and Jennifer Hughes as Miami (right) in a scene

Lifeshouse, Question of Honour-good tunes; Low-great

Packard's CD Ratings:

- ***** - Excellent
- **** - Great
- *** - Good Tunes
- ** - Not worth the \$15
- * - Not worth the wax

by Matt Packard

Lifeshouse No Name Face

I would estimate that 75 percent of today's semi-successful rock singers owe a great big thank you card to Eddie Vedder. Jason Wade of Lifeshouse is not in the minority.

He also owes a bit of thanks to Kendall Payne, but she gets hers in the album's booklet.

This band has taken sage, popular and nearly foolproof elements of more than a few established

artists' styles to make a middling, predictable record.

I must admit that "Hanging By a Moment" is one of my guilty pleasures.

The style, feeling and engendered guilt are all comparable to Matchbox Twenty's "If You're Gone."

Much like the last Matchbox record, No Name Face doesn't offer anything better than (or even anything that deviates from) it's biggest single.

These are all mid-tempo pop rock songs that seem to come from a spiritual place, yet seem to lack passion and charisma.

This music is far from challenging and has immediate and

specific boundaries. While this sage approach never produces an influential or extremely valuable piece of art, it usually makes for nice listening for those who have better things to do than critique music. ***

Low Things We Lost in the Fire

I have this fantasy: I am sitting around a fire (years from now) having accumulated enough food memories to fill a late August night with "remember whens."

My wife (yet to be found) is sitting on the arm of my lawn chair and my daughter (yet to be conceived, but valuable and accomplished).

Twenty feet behind me, this album is playing on a portable boombox. It is insightful, moody and ethereal. Songs like "Dinosaur

Act" and "July" unfold like archives, yet have a futuristic folk quality. (If that makes any sense).

Your taste for this album will grow as gradually as its songs. They are slow, comfortably methodical and ultimately rewarding.

At times, this sounds like an album that Peter, Paul and Mary recorded, but never released for fear of clouding up someone's sunshine.

The Keatons would have loved it. ****

Question of Honour Canopic Jars

I'm having a difficult time putting a finger on this record. The first spin felt like the type of mid-late seventies stodge rock that is over-melodious, gratuitously layered and arduous to listen when not done extremely well.

It's the kind of music that comes to mind when Homer Simpson promotes Grand Funk Railroad.

During the next record, these same songs somehow moved into the 1980s with some Bon Jovi-style vocals and accustomed patterns.

Then, there were even elements of modern pop rock.

I suppose "Alone" is my favorite track, as it is the catchiest and easiest to digest. This is great garage music.

I don't mean that in the sense that they are a "garage band." I mean that if I was to direct a film that called for characters to deliberate while they worked on a car, this would be my background music.

I don't know how to change my oil and I don't listen to much "classic" rock, but I have a feeling that my more "guy-like" friends would really enjoy this album. **

Want an album reviewed? WANT TO SWEAR AT ME? Contact me at Gmk1Narl1@aol.com.

OSSA, Student Alliance brings "The Second City" to JJC

by Kaylee Van Hoose

The comedic traveling group, The Second City, made a one night stop at JJC on March 23 in the fine arts theatre thanks to the Office of Student Services Association and the Student Alliance.

Although the event was highly publicized with free tickets for JJC students by OSSA, the theatres were only partially full.

Students were noisy with anticipation because the show had not started until 20 minutes past 7 p.m. Cell phones chimed through the theatre even though an announcement was made to shut them off.

The improv comedy group consisted of six actors and a piano player with a set that contained five chairs and, of course, the piano.

The group performed long rehearsed skits, portrayal of popu-



lar jokes, audience participation skits, an improvised song as well as complete improv with the audience playing the God, meaning the instigator.

The actors were extremely upbeat, trained and entertaining. The audience remained amused through most of the two-hour performance and there were several crowd favorites throughout the night.

For example, there was a skit that urged audience participation, and boy did they get it. The audience seemed satisfied when the actors received quite a laugh themselves. It was great watching the actors trying to contain themselves as the audience wants them to describe an old lady's son as "a midget who wants to be a tall clown" who writes to his old girlfriend who is now a nymphomaniac with syphilis and says, "bitch, be cool."

ac with syphilis and says, "bitch, be cool."

Another favorite was a game in which the audience picks a scene such as a bedroom, a scenario and what actors are supposed to do.

It was great watching the actors trying to contain themselves as the audience wants them to describe an old lady's son as "a midget who wants to be a tall clown" who writes to his old girlfriend who is now a nymphomaniac with syphilis and says, "bitch, be cool."

It took place on a bed that consisted of two chairs two actresses who portray "life partners" and their son, and then a grandmother. One of the actors asked the audience what the mothers got the grandmother, which ends up being a motorcycle. Then the son has a secret that he's "confused" and then a man who is painting becomes Sean Connery.

The scene then changes to a horror film and then to a Western which eventually turns into a Mexican soap opera. The audience took pride in their work.

Overall, the performance was really good, and I would definitely take the time to check it out in Chicago.

I sadly believe that many students missed out on a great opportunity to see a cost-free, remarkable performance.

Lady Wolves softball record stands at 8-8 so far this season

by Tony Ciampa

On March 27, the JJC Lady Wolves softball team dropped to .500 on the season by losing to Moraine Valley 1-0 and 11-7 in a double header. Their overall record stands at 8-8 on the season.

Some of the highlight players for the two games were Heather Pope and Kellie Lynn.

Pope had four hits and two

R.B.I. in the double header. In Game one, starting pitcher Lynn struck out eight and only allowed three hits.

On the way, Lynn's record is (5-3). Unfortunately for the Lady Wolves, they could not capitalize on these great efforts.

The Lady Wolves are returning from a season where expectations were not met and new blood is being injected into the team. For

the first time since 1994, the Lady Wolves finished below .500 for the season.

"We lost our focus last year toward the end of the season. Therefore, we did not live up to expectations," said nine-year Head Softball Coach Jack Smith.

This year's softball team is entering the season with no returning player from last season.

Gone are all-conference per-

formers Lisa Gierich and Tracy Phillips. Taking their places at shortstop and third base will be Lynn, when not pitching, from Coal City High School and Emily Hartline from Newark High School.

Catie Anderson from Dwight High School will help at shortstop and as one of three available catch-

"We have some versatility on

this team," said coach Smith. "Most of our player can play two or three positions."

They have all displayed a great work ethic and are always on time for practice and are coming together as a team in a very positive manner.

If the team remains focused, keeps a great attitude and continues to work diligently, we could surprise people."

Vitas dedicated to sport

by Lorraine Guerrero

Under the lights of the St. Joseph's little league stadium is where Joliet Junior College Sophomore Jason Vitas started his baseball career.

At the tender age of seven, his father brought Vitas to St. Joseph's baseball park in Crest Hill and thus began a love for the game that is still with him today.

He remembers loving the game and the small green uniform he put on that first year.

Vitas was involved in many other sports activities while growing up, such as basketball and football.

He decided to give all of his attention to baseball when he entered high school "because baseball is what I felt I was best at."

Vitas played baseball for all four years at Joliet Township

Central High School.

Vitas is six feet tall, weighs 175 pounds and is one of two returning starters from last year's roster. The other is sophomore outfielder Eric Waxweiler. Vitas plays outfield, infield, and sometimes pitcher.

So far this season, Vitas is batting .275 with three doubles, one triple and 14 runs scored.

He leads the team in stolen bases with 8.

"The best experience in my baseball career was going to the NJCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association) Division 3 World series last season," said Vitas.

His future plans are to finish his college education in the next few years.

He has not decided on which school he will transfer too, but both Spalding University in Kentucky

and Eastern Illinois University have approached him.

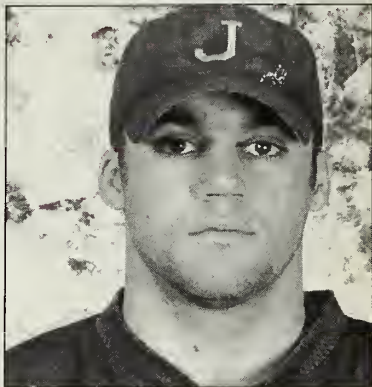
Vitas is going to major in sports marketing. He wants to work for a professional team.

If he was to get his way, he would work in the marketing area of his favorite baseball team, the Chicago White Sox.

Vitas believes that one of the most valuable skills he has learned from playing baseball is being able to function as a team player.

"Being a team player is important and is useful everywhere," he said. "We don't have as much talent as we did last year, but we definitely play better together as a team this year. We will also have more wins this year."

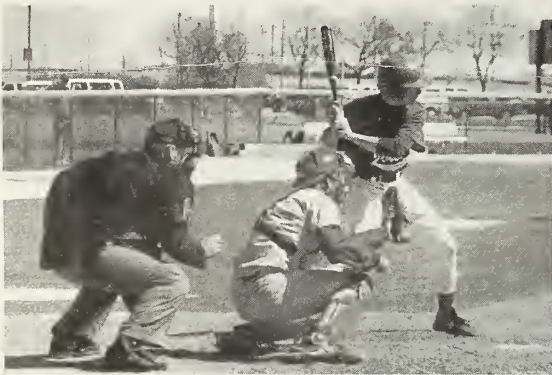
Be sure to raise a ruckus when the JJC Wolves baseball team plays at home against the College of Dupage in a double header on April 8 starting at noon.



Athlete of the Issue Jason Vitas

Photo courtesy of Athletics

Wolves 2001 season looking up



A JJC Wolves baseball player steps up to bat in the 2001 season.

Photo courtesy of Athletics

by Tony Ciampa

The JJC Wolves baseball team spanked Kankakee 9-2 behind a great performance by Robert McClellan to bring their overall record to (5-14) for the year. McClellan pitched a complete game for the Wolves.

He gave up 10 hits and striking out three in the win. Other key players' to the victory were Kevin Boyd with two doubles and two RBIs and Craig Aslinger with a RBI.

After starting the season slow,

the Wolves seem to be turning things around with victories in their last two games. On March 27, the Wolves beat Waubesa 4-3 with a bottom of the ninth comeback.

Key players to the victory were
Kevin Boyd and
Craig Aslinger.

A fielder's choice for Mike Maher hit and two singles by Ryan

Cougill and Billy Glasscock set up a game-winning two-out single by Boyd.

Winning pitcher in the game was Patrick Molinari. Molinari struck out 11 and scattered five hits to record his first win of the season.

During the final four innings of the game, Molinari held the Chiefs to no runs.

With the players starting to work more and more as a team, look for the Wolves to begin to creep closer to the elusive .500 mark of baseball.

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JJC student dies in car accident

by Kaylee Van Hoose

Twenty-year-old Joliet Junior College student, Kevin Mikota, died early April 20, as a result of a car accident on Theodore Street and Drauden Road when coming home from a birthday party. He was one of the two injured passengers in the 1993 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme driven by Katie Bilecki, 20. The other passenger, Adam Behun, suffered a broken wrist.

Since that morning, Bilecki has been charged with reckless homicide and is free of bond.

Bilecki drove the car into a utility pole around 3:35 a.m. and all three were thrown from the vehicle. After the crash, her blood-alcohol level tested at .168, more than twice the legal limit. Joliet Police Department Commander Fred Hayes told the *Herald News*.

Mikota was about to finish a degree in electrical systems this semester and was also a part-time employee at Aurelio's Pizzeria in Joliet. He was well liked by his many friends and instructors at JJC.

"Kevin was a great student

who always added a little levity to our class," said instructor Tim Pfaff. "He was a pleasant addition to my class and I feel that he would have gone far in his future. I wish I could have at least one student like him in every one of my classes."

Greg Tilos, of the technical department, also respected and thought highly of Mikota.

"He was only under me by one semester, but I was impressed by his diligence and perseverance," said Tilos. "He personified the 'never say give up' guy."

When funeral services concluded at Grant-Tapella-Freitag Westwood Memorial Chapel on April 24, friends and family gathered at the site where Mikota had died only a few days before.

They took several crosses, dozens of white balloons, flowers and Mikota's Chevrolet S-10 pickup truck and played songs from his truck stereo that he liked.

"For that moment, everything was right again," Adam's father, John Behun told the *Herald News*.

According to the story, the most important song was Master P's "Goodbye to My Homies," that



Flowers and crosses are left at the site of the accident that took Kevin Mikota's life April 20.
Photo by Michelle Tarrant

Mikota's best friend, Adam Behun, said was an ode to friendship.

"He was a good kid, and a real friend," Behun said in the article.

Mikota was born on Oct. 8, 1980. He is survived by his father, Michael (Robin) Mikota; his mother, Dawn (Steve) Kraklio; brothers and sister, Brett Mikota, Kristian and Harrison Navickas; step-sister, Amanda Kraklio; and special friend, Lauren Fazio; his grandpar-

ents, George and Mary Mikota, Florence Leonard, Bob and Carole Blagg and Don and Elizabeth Oowney; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services were held at the Grant-Tapella-Freitag Westwood Memorial Chapel on April 24 at 10 a.m. Cremation rites were accorded with final inurnment at Woodlawn Memorial Park White Swan Mausoleum located in Joliet.

JJC wins third state College Bowl tourney



Members of the Joliet Junior College Bowl team answer a question at finals. Bill Yarrow and his team will be honored at a June 15 awards banquet in Chicago.
Photo courtesy of Blazer Staff

by Michelle Tarrant

On April 20, four Joliet Junior College students represented the school in the annual College Bowl state finals at Richland Community College in Decatur. For the third year in a row, JJC placed first among a number of other colleges in the state.

The team, comprised of Chris Prola (captain), Jeff Consten, Michael Howard and Casey Ostrowski, swept all five rounds of the college bowl beating out Illinois Central Community College, Oakton Community College, John Logan College,

Kaskaskia Community College and Morton College.

Prola and Ostrowski were both selected as members of the state finals All-Star Team made up of the five players who scored the most points on toss-up questions.

Coach Bill Yarrow and his team will be recognized at ICCJA's June 15 awards banquet in Chicago.

The College Bowl is co-sponsored each year by ICC and sponsored by the Illinois Community College Student Activities Association.

Blazer staff receives ICCJA awards at NIU

by Michelle Tarrant

The staff of Joliet Junior College's student newspaper, the *Blazer*, received several awards from the Illinois Community College Journalism Association, April 23, during a visit to the annual contest and workshop held at Northern Illinois University.

The *Blazer* received an Overall Second Place award in the tri-weeklies and monthlies category. The *Blazer* also received a Second Place merit award from the ICCJA.

"It's always nice to see people who work hard get rewarded for their work," said *Blazer* adviser and JJC English professor Bob Marcink.

Several staff members won first place awards for various topics. First place awards for sports feature writing were given to Tony Ciampa and Michelle Tarrant. Kaylee Van Hoose received a first place award for news writing and another first place was awarded to Tarrant in the editorial category.

Several other staff writers received various awards for feature writing, photography and opinion writing. The additional winners include Danna Billings and Laura Murphy.

"I'm proud of everyone who won individual awards and I'm equally as proud of all the staff members who helped us win the team awards," stated Marcink.

Student trustee elected

The results of the Student Trustee election are in. Elba Vargas won the election in a landslide with 157 votes tallied in her favor. A handful of other votes were given to write-in's.

Vargas is a freshman currently working toward her juris doctor degree.

At Joliet Junior College, Vargas is active in Latinos Unidos, a strong student organization on campus.

According to Vargas, "diversity and respect are two major issues on campus and am willing to work to gain both at JJC."

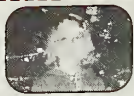


Elba Vargas is JJC's new student trustee.

May 2, 2001

Clip-n-Save

by Michelle Tarrant



What a year it has been. Surprisingly I can't believe that this year is about to end for me at Joliet Junior College. In the fall, I plan on transferring to Columbia College Chicago to further pursue a degree in journalism.

There is still one item that irks the hell out of me as I near completion of my days at the place where "you can be." STUDENT INVOLVEMENT.

Yeah, it's a simple thing. Do any of you people realize the array of kick-ass events that have been brought to our school? Probably not. Let me tell you what you've missed.

In the fall, UPS Extreme Fest brought an actual skydiving simulator to the campus that was FREE to use with no stipulations. There were also games that would grant the winner a BRAND NEW computer. Wow, JJC sucks doesn't it?

What about the Second City show? Yeah the real comedy troupe that has pushed out comics like Chris Farley, John Belushi and John Candy. Oh, and did I forget to mention that it was free? I saw them perform in Chicago once. For about \$30. Does JJC still sound like some lame junior college that doesn't appeal to student's interests?

If you plan on furthering your

college career here next year, try not to take these opportunities for granted. I just see complete waste when things like Second City come here, and only a handful of students attend.

Next time I see people whining in the hall about how much this school sucks, try picking up the student newspaper or looking at the loads of flyers posted all over the place. I'm sure you'll find something of interest that will occupy your time.

Ok, now I'm going to give some shout-outs B-96 style.

I would first like to give props to my boy Bob. Without the support and help from our adviser Bob Marcink, I know I wouldn't be as experienced and as prepared to move into a career in journalism without his help and support through thick and thin (and Coal City). I also want to thank him for helping me receive a great internship last summer and for gracing me with the opportunity to be co-editor of the *Blazer* this year. Your personal time and dedication spent with me and the staff will not go unappreciated.

I'm also glad I found a new friend in Kaylee Van Haase, my co-editor in crime. Without her here, the staff and the paper as a whole would never have turned out

so dignified and so ready to bugger off. I don't think people realize how hard it is to churn this paper out every three weeks. Kaylee has stuck by me during the best and worst of times this year, and I'll always treasure her encouraging words. Good luck at ISU Kaylee!

Thanks to Tony who always kept a swirl of testosterone-induced controversy in the air and a new outlook on how fun it is to push his chair out the door. And most importantly, thanks for making us sit back and wonder "what the HELL!!!" when we needed to. To everyone, who took the time to write for the *Blazer* this year, we appreciate your effort. There is no way we could have done half the things we did without you. I hope some of you step up next year and take on other roles at the *Blazer* office.

And a huge thank-you to my parents and to Mary and Jeff who have been completely supportive of me throughout the year. You have no idea how much it means to me. I love you all.

Remember all the good times folks: Stony paper, shuffling students, the honors lounge, Manteno mental houses, Honey-Sugar-Sugar tunes and most of all, remember that words are powerful. Never take that for granted.

And now... a word from our sponsor



Well, another year has come and gone for the *Blazer*. While I sit at my keyboard writing my annual farewell column, the staff is preparing the final issue of the year—and we're all preparing for finals.

As I complete my fourth year as the *Blazer* adviser, I can honestly say that this year has been like no other. Of course, I could say that every year. In fact, I think I do. So what I'm really saying is the more things change... I think you get the idea.

Every fall a new staff takes over in the *Blazer* office, and every year the staff experiences growing pains. But in the end, we generally end up with a strong core of writers and reporters who put together a product that they and the institution can be proud of. (And, yes, even English teachers finish some sentences with a preposition.)

Putting together a newspaper in any setting is tough business. And putting one together on a commuter campus brings its own set of challenges.

With students today all working outside of school, one of the biggest problems the editors encounter is finding reliable reporters. The other challenge is simply finding a time when all the editors, who also work and go to school, can gather for production.

This year the editors had their share of such problems, but to their credit they still met every deadline and managed to cover the campus thoroughly.

Yes, they missed a story here and there, but I know each of them did their best to bring the news to you. The acknowledgement their work recently received from the Illinois Community College Journalism Association confirms that. (See related story on Page 1.)

As in past years, the staff stumbled once or twice, but editors Michelle Tarrant and Kaylee Van Haase did whatever they had to do to get the paper out of the building and on the road to the printer by 5 p.m. on every production day. And, to a large degree, that's really what journalism is all about.

For those of you who saw Tom Hanks in "A League of Their Own," you know that there is no crying in baseball. Well, the same goes for newspapers. Not only is there no crying in newspapers, "There's no excuses," either. You do what you have to do to get the paper out. Then you start working on the next one.

Newspapers are never perfect—writing history on the run is tricky business—but they have to be on time. And this group of students not only put out a good product, they accepted their responsibility with very little prodding from their adviser, and they met their deadlines like professionals. And that's the best compliment any newspaper person can receive.

So, to Michelle and Kaylee, and Advertising Manager Lorraine Guerrero, who promises me she's leaving this year (you know I love you Lorena), and Sports Editor Tony Ciampa and Production Manager Matt Furlane, thank you for your time and your efforts. You enriched my life by your presence. And please take the skills you honed here to bigger and better things.

Thanks to all who worked on the *Blazer* this year, including: Kaye Butz, Ashley Bennett, Danae Billings, Scott Besler, Adkins Jones, Laura Murphy, Tim Daly, Scott Hopkins, Jim Readon, Matt Packard, Adam Satorius, Jesse Cohoon and Amber Alling. Good luck in your next challenge.

Question of the Issue

Timothy McVeigh "the Oklahoma City Bomber" who killed 168 people is to be executed on May 16.

SHOULD TIMOTHY McVEIGH'S EXECUTION BE TELEVISED?



"Yes, because he deserves to be humiliated. It will show people how gruesome it is and maybe prevent further killings!"
Ryan Coughlin, Freshman



"No, he wants to be on national television. So he can be a martyr to show his actions were worthy. It's just feeding his fire."
John Zentmyer, Sophomore



"No, I don't think he should even be killed. It's barbaric. It's hypocritical and solves nothing."
Robert J. Clack, Sophomore



"Yeah, because they showed the victims suffering so they should show him getting his too!"
Antoine Gains, Freshman



"No, what are we teaching by killing him in the first place? What or who is it going to help really?"
Miguel Lopez, Sophomore



"Yes, I do because they showed what victims went through on T.V. So his punishment should be televised as well. Eye for an Eye, Tooth for a Tooth."
Danae Billings, Sophomore

Blazer Staff

Co-Editors
Michelle Tarrant
Kaylee Van Haase

Production Managers
Kaye Butz/ Matt Furlane

Sports Editor
Tany Ciampa

Ad Director
Lorraine Guerrero

Staff Writers
Ashley Bennett, Danae Billings,
Matt Packard, Adam Satorius

Adviser: Bob Marcink

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

The final shuffle

by Kaylee Van Hoose



Lessons learned at JJC

I never realized how fast the hours, days, weeks and even months can pass by. But we all know they do.

This past school year has been incredibly eventful for me as *Blazer* co-editor. I have met so many wonderful people who have allowed me to make so many wonderful memories.

From roaring laughter, to agitated yelling, I will take many memories with me next year. We laughed, we cried, we bickered, we kept silent, we got yelled at, we yelled back. I did not know any of the staff when I became an editor, not even the other editors, Michelle Tarrant and Tony Ciampa. I realize now that I'm glad that I stayed at JJC for a second year because I have made many new friends and new memories.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the *Blazer*

staff, to everyone who wrote for the paper this year including Ashley Bennen, Adkins Jones, Danna Billings, Laura Murphy, Jim Reardon, Joe Chindler, Tim Daly, Jesse Cohoon, Amber Alling,

**We laughed, we cried,
we bickered, we kept
silent, we got yelled at,
we yelled back.**

Scott Bessler and Matt Furlane as well as the editors who have really dedicated themselves to this paper.

A special thanks to Lorena Guerrero who has always brought lightheartedness to the staff as well as a wonderful personality. To Tony Ciampa who has dedicated so much to the *Blazer*. He has always filled the office with testosterone, oh yes, and many fun controversial ideas and "Tony's sports page."

To my partner in crime, Michelle Tarrant. I'm especially glad to have found her as a friend and co-worker. She has brought overabundant humor and creativity to the office. I will always remember the many times we got in trouble by other editors and Mr. Marcink due to our constant laughter. And also to our constant laughter. And due to our trip to Manteno, to Camerachow, to NU. I wish her the best of luck at Columbia College.

Last but not least, Bob Marcink. He has become more than just an adviser to us. He's become our friend and a mentor. He has helped me to develop as a writer, editor and a leader. I owe him so much for what he has taught me, and I owe him for this wonderful experience working on the *Blazer*.

Sigh of the times

By Tony Ciampa



THE FUTURE KILLING FIELD; COLLEGE

The idea of high school murderers not having the type of character to go to college has lured colleges into a false security as to how to approach this new killing trend.

I am waiting for the day these murders make their way to colleges.

These high school kids are juniors and seniors that are looking to advance in life as we all are.

When the two killers at Columbine High School decided that they were going to go on a shooting spree they left a video behind and a quote from Shakespeare.

As one aimed the camera, the other spoke the words: "Good words have borne bad sons."

These are not the words of kids who are not educated enough to be in college. When will it start happening at colleges?

There is an underlying belief that these kids fall prey to the pressure of not fitting in at school or social stresses and go on these killing rampages because of these stresses.

Why is JJC jeopardizing the students and faculties security? The security personnel at JJC are all police trained and know how to use firearms properly.

Nothing really changes from high school to college in stress. If anything, life becomes even more stressful.

As college students some of the greatest stress in life is balancing social life, work and school. Many kids are leaving home for the first time when they go to college and others are trying to find new crowds to hang out with on the weekends.

In a first year in college, students join clubs or fraternities to fit in. This is the same principal as joining sports in high school.

As college students, money is now a bigger role in life. As we speak, these kids could be sleeping in the dorm next to you or plotting their killing spree.

Colleges need to start educating their students as to the signs that they should look for in a student.

Faculty should be made to take mandatory classes to educate them in the chance that there be a crisis. Will colleges continue to ignore it until it happens?

At JJC, I have my fears about my safety if such an atrocity was to occur. Our security carries guns and a stick.

My feelings are that at the first sign of danger that security officer is going to be running for the nearest exit thinking that \$13.00 an hour, or so, is not worth taking a bullet.

Security at JJC needs to hold a conference to let the concerned student know that they are prepared for this type of incident. JJC's North Campus is no safer.

Most college's security personnel are armed. Trillion College, College of Dupage and other four-year state schools all have armed security.

Why is JJC jeopardizing the

students and faculties security? The security personnel at JJC are all police trained and know how to use firearms properly.

For crying out loud, we are next to a state prison. Give them the right to protect us.

When the two killers at Columbine High School decided that they were going to go on a shooting spree they left a video behind and a quote from Shakespeare. "Good words have borne bad sons." These are not the words of kids who are not educated enough to be in college

We, as a student body, need to let the school know that this is an issue that concerns us and needs to be addressed. Ignorance is NOT bliss.

After all these high school kids are a summer away from being your roommate or colleague.

(Yes, I am finally placing my real picture at the top of my column.)

My thanks to the students and faculty who read this paper. It makes it worthwhile to write when someone says they liked what you wrote.

Finally, thanks to Bob Marcink and the *Blazer* group for helping me become a better person and writer.

Write me at:
t_ciampa@hotmail.com

COW UPDATE



Plans for the JJC cow are moving along. The photo above is a model of what the cow will look like upon completion in fall 2001 (being white.)

Want to see your name in the paper?

Now's your chance!

PAID POSITIONS AVAILABLE

For information, contact Bob Marcink, *Blazer* adviser, at ext. 2607 or at rmarcink@jcc.cc.il.us.

Art distracts, if anything

by Matt Furlane

In 1999 the Brooklyn Museum of Art displayed, as part of an exhibit designed to be sensational, a painting of the Virgin Mary by artist Chris Ofili.

Paintings of the Madonna usually don't offend anyone. But this time it was dotted with crap (dang! for the sophisticated) and cut outs from pornographic magazines.

The mayor of New York, Rudolph Giuliani, responded by freezing \$7 million in public funding and the usual politically charged debates ensued.

The work was defended on the grounds that Ofili was merely honoring the Madonna according to his own native traditions. The dung was supposed to symbolize a closeness to the earth and the cut outs... I have no idea.

I can understand the director's need to attract more attention to the museum so people will become aware of the other works on display.

But I believe the whole concept is misguided and a hindrance to real creativity because it distracts instead of attracts.

The message the museum seems to be presenting is: if you want to make it as an artist, produce (literally), crap that causes controversy.

I think the sad fact is, today the people who are genuinely creative may never get a chance to display their work because it doesn't shock.

Artists seemed to be encouraged to give in to the "shock me" mentality and carelessly shoot for the hot buttons.

Ok, maybe I'm overreacting. Maybe not. This past February, the Brooklyn Museum of Art unveiled yet again another controversial exhibit. And guess what? It again pushed the hot buttons, particularly those of mayor Giuliani.

The title of the work was "Yo Mama's Last Supper" and the artist of choice was Jancaian horn, ex-Catholic Rence Cos.

In five separate photographs she displays a kind of modern version of Leonardo Da Vinci's Last Supper, except instead of Christ at

the center she is standing there made with African American men on each side of the table. (Judas being white.)

She defends her work on the grounds that the Catholic church deserves to be criticized for its dominance by white males and it's refusal to ordain women.

To my surprise, she wanted to provide contrast to the typical Renaissance paintings that always portrayed Christ as being a male European. But it's equally wrong to try to portray Christ as African. God is God. Christ was Jewish, end of argument.

I can accept the very remote possibility that maybe Cos being Jancaian lacked an understanding of the possible consequences of her work and was really trying to make a quiet point.

The problem isn't the pictures, they aren't that good anyway (How much would you pay for them?), but the museum's decision to pick another artist whose work was going to cause controversy.

The argument again could be made that, by drawing attention to the museum more people become aware of the other works on display.

But the museum doesn't seem to be concerned about anything except aggravating mayor Giuliani. Let's be real. Cos's pictures are tailor made to aggravate.

Also, the decision to create controversy may have distracted instead of attracted, from the other exhibits, which portrayed African Americans in art, music, and sports; the struggle for civil rights; and the lives of other people around the world.

Additionally, the shock method of drawing attention may end up backfiring and creating a cold climate for artists who want to address issues like race, sex and religion in a way that isn't so purposefully antagonistic.

I would venture to guess the public is getting tired of being harassed by shock artists. I think the era of shock is getting stale. Enough Howard Stern, Jerry Springer, and Eminem. Enough Ofili and Cos.

It's time to start encouraging artists to develop their talents and explore the wide variety of subjects that are out there besides art that irritates the may or of New York.



New Board of Trustees elected

Jim McFarland of Joliet, Judy DeVriendt and Katherine Mary Johnson of New Lenox, have been elected to serve fiveand 1/2 year terms on the Board of Trustees at Joliet Junior College according to unofficial election results. All three will be newcomers to the board.

McFarland led all candidates with 23,464 votes. DeVriendt came in second with 23,075 and Johnson in third with 22,837.

Board incumbent David Cryer finished fifth with 20,027 and incumbent Eleanor McGuan-Boza finished sixth with 19,344. Board member Marilyn Hertko chose not to run for re-election.

Although the Board will confirm the election results this week, the newly elected trustees are not slated to take office until November.

Because of the recent move to consolidated local elections in Illinois to April, Hertko, Cryer and McGuan-Boza will be allowed to complete the full six years of the

terms to which they were elected.

The Joliet Junior College district includes all or parts of Will, Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston and Cook counties.

JJC celebrates Cinco de Mayo

Joliet Junior College is hosting a Cinco de Mayo celebration from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. May 4.

The event, sponsored by the JJC Latinos Unidos, and will take place at the Main Campus.

Latinos Unidos is a JJC student club designed to promote awareness of the Hispanic culture and to encourage enrollment and retention of Hispanic students.

The event will feature a transfer fair, dancers, student panel and guest speakers from United States Hispanic Leadership. For more information, call ext. 2253.

JJC hosts art exhibition

The Joliet Junior College Art Students' Juried Exhibition will run

through May 4 at the Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery on the college's Main Campus.

The show, which features various art forms, includes 54 works from 38 JJC students.

The Juror's Award winners were selected by Ed Krantz who is Gallery Curator of Elgin Community College.

These students are Autumn M. Hansen, computer generated image, Karan Ventura, acrylic, Dr. Sandra Morris-Goodspeed, interchangeable pendants and chains, Ray Luna, computer-generated image, Allison Mulderink, pastel and colored pencil, Stephen Dunne, charcoal, Allison Macier, clay sculpture, Melissa Urbonas, pastel, Veronica Mendez, oil and Thomas E. Bass, clay sculpture.

A juror's critique and presentation of awards were held in the gallery at 1 p.m. April 24.

Juror's Awards were made possible by contributions from John and Laura Kingsbury and Dr. Gamil Arida.

The Kingsburys also donated

the plexiglass vitrines used in the exhibition.

Many featured works are for sale. For more information, call Joe Milesevic, gallery curator, at (815) 280-2423 or (815) 280-2223. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

JJC's Music and Taste honors late director

The Joliet Junior College Chamber Singers, under the direction of Robert Howell, will present the ninth annual "Music ... and a Taste" at 7 p.m. May 5, in the Main Campus Dining Hall.

The cost is \$8 per person with proceeds going to the Douglas F. Oxborrow Choral/Vocal Scholarship.

This scholarship is being established to honor and celebrate the life of Oxborrow who died suddenly on March 28. Oxborrow directed the JJC Chamber Singers for the past 20 years.

The concert will be divided into three sections. The first section

will feature music of well-known classical composers.

As part of the college's Centennial celebration, former members of the group will be participating in the concert.

An intermission gives the audience a chance to sample desserts prepared by the Culinary Arts Department. Music will be performed by the JJC Jazz Combo under the direction of Chuck Morgan.

The final section will consist of modern, vocal jazz, blues and pop music. Pieces include two arrangements by Kirby Shaw, a tribute to Frank Sinatra and "When You Believe" from The Prince of Egypt.

For more information or reservations, call (815) 280-2223.

As part of the Centennial celebration, former members of the JJC Chamber Singers will be allowed to attend at no cost.

They must simply identify themselves when making reservations.



News briefs

You've learned a lot. At Elmhurst, you'll

learn more.

Planning to earn a four-year degree? Consider Elmhurst College. In "America's Best Colleges," the annual survey by *U.S. News & World Report*, we rank in the top tier of the Midwest's liberal arts colleges.

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Elmhurst is small by design, rich in resources and opportunities (including 52 undergraduate majors). On a classic campus, in a charming suburb, we prepare students of many ages and backgrounds for lives of service, opportunity, and achievement. Friendly, challenging, comprehensive, and innovative—Elmhurst is what college ought to be.



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For more information, call (630) 617-1400 to arrange a campus visit and interview with an admission counselor. Elmhurst is unusually transfer friendly. About one in three of our students is a transfer student. You owe it to yourself to learn more about us.

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May 2, 2001

Perley debuts album

by Michelle Tarrant

For 22-year-old James Mitchell Perley, finding the time for an interview can become a time consuming task. While tending bar at Enricos, a busy Italian restaurant in Frankfort, Perley handed out drinks and kept the bar in order while discussing his new album release, *They*.

In the fall of 2000, Perley released his first album, *Face First*, around the Joliet area. He sold about 50 copies of the album, which was better than he expected.

"I expected to sell about two," Perley said. "It was an experimental album that I threw out and realized that I wanted to do it again on a much larger scale."

According to Perley, *Face First* had a much more melancholy and modest feel to it. He said it was a personal album that had a lot to do with his own opinions and convictions.

"They is more focused on people around me and how I felt toward them and how they felt toward me," he said.

Perley explained that the reaction he wants people to take away from his album is the most important to his heart.

"I want people to hear it and think 'Wow I thought I was the only one,'" he said.

One of the most important elements to the creation process is the drive to write. For Perley, the most important thing that motivates his lyrics and poetry are people.

"I see people and I want to write about them," Perley stated.

Perley said he likes to write about cause and effect. Most of his songs include "punch line" of sorts



"James Mitchell" hard at work

that he hopes people will relate to.

"My music is a story being told," he said. "A song and music are the sights that I've seen."

Perley also said that anyone can do what he's doing. According to Perley, the production of *Face First* had cost around \$1000.

"Anyone can do this," he said.

"All that matters is how much fun you have doing it. It's an incredible feeling to finish an album and if I can catch one person's attention, it's worth it."

They is planned to be released in late May or early June Perley said.

His web-site, <http://jamesmit78.homestead.com/jamesmitchell.html>, includes news information, show dates, release dates and a gallery of Perley's photos and poetry.

When asked about the most rewarding part of creating and distributing an album, Perley beamed.

"It was at a gas station and this man walked up to me and said, 'HEY! You're that guy from the CD,'" he said. "That was the coolest thing ever."

JJC calendar of events for May 2001

The JJC Jazz and Romeoville High School Bands are having a spring concert in the Fine Arts Theatre May 4 at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$8 per person. For reservations call ext. 2223.

The JJC Chamber Singers present the ninth annual "Music and a Taste" May 5 at 7 p.m. in the Main Campus Dining Hall. Tickets are \$8 and proceeds benefit the Douglass Oxborrow Memorial Fund.

For information call ext. 2223.

The JJC Community Band will present a concert in honor of the Centennial Anniversary of JJC May 6 at 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts

Theatre on the Main Campus. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. For information call ext. 2223.

The JJC Alumni Association will hold the twentieth annual Alumni Branch Buffet June 10 in Main Campus Cafeteria. Cost is \$20 per person.

The Laura A. Sprague Gallery Exhibit "JJC Art Student's Juried Exhibition" is on display in the gallery located on Main Campus from May 1-6.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and friends Membership Drive will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on the Bridge May 2.

JJC Culinary Arts classes will hold a Cinco de Mayo Buffet May 5 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Main Campus Cafeteria.

Latinos Unidos Cinco de Mayo Conference will be held from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. on the Main Campus May 4. For more information contact the

JJC website at <http://www.jjc.cc.il.us>.

FINALS WEEK is from May 7-

11. Don't forget to study.

JC Players Awards Banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Center May 12. For more information contact the fine arts line.



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Finals in one week: be prepared

by Danae Billings

It is that time again. Finals week is quickly approaching, but you have yet to crack a book. As a student, finals could easily get you stressed out, leaving you no choice but to seek out study tips.

Victor Barr, Ph.D., a psychologist from the U.T. Student Counseling Services, has created a helpful list of hints for preparing for exams without getting stressed out.

According to Lil Stianback, president of Achievers Committed to Excellence, on www.asa.utk.edu, "Dr. Barr suggested to students who are studying for a reading-emphasis course, to use notecards to write down important information."

Barr has also offered other helpful hints for studying for exams: Do not cut into your sleep. Every student needs to get at least six hours of sleep per night. Prioritize based upon your class load and which classes need the most effort. Do not study when you are tense. Do not get drunk, espe-

cially four to five days before finals begin.

On the same website, Ronald McFadden, Ph.D., director of U Educational Advancement Program, also gives tips to studying students. For example, engage in positive self-talk. Review notes in large print, or the concepts, terms and definitions you are learning are critical on a large outline.

Divide study patterns into pre-planned increments of 20 to 30 minutes with five minute breaks in between. Lastly, speed read and skim all multiple choice exams. "It is in your best interest to see the exam at least three times, avoiding the lock-step method of answering the questions in order," McFadden said.

When studying from reading materials, it is better to read to understand, not to memorize.

It is helpful to make each headline a question, and then read the selection to answer the question. Also, only underline or highlight after reading a paragraph or short section. Use the margins to write key words that represent the

ideas that are underlined. After reading the selection, go back and recite the ideas.

The exams are handed out. Never fear there are still a few hints that will help you receive a higher score. For multiple choice, matching and fill-in-the-blank questions use the following tips. Scan the exam and note how much each section is worth in relation to the overall score. Then develop a time plan to avoid running out of time at the end of the exam. Read each set of directions carefully. If a question seems to be consuming too much time, mark it, leave it and come back to it later. For multiple choice questions, read all of the choices before answering.

Read all of the essay questions before starting to write, selecting those for which you are best prepared. Quickly jot down an outline for each essay question you choose, listing any technical terms that come to mind. Answer each question directly.

Remember to keep track of time and be sure you know what the question is asking.

Summerscopes

by Matt Packard

Taurus:

You will often hear the phrase "dog days of summer," as it directly pertains to you.

Gemini:

August 26 will be your big day, as you finally find a summer job.

Cancer:

You will be devastated all summer long as I will again destroy you on the tennis court to retain my Mokena Cup Championship.

Leo:

You will have a fantastic summer because that is what you want. As you know, you always get what you want and it is my job to keep it that way because I love you more than you will ever know.

Or maybe you know by now.

Virgo:

You will bring a soccer ball to the zoo and kick it into the giraffe exhibit, just so you can yell "Gets one by the (zoo) keeper!!!"

You will think this is hilarious.

Libra:

You will buy a convertible so that you can joke about "driving around topless." You will not be as funny as Virgo.

Scorpio:

June is a great time to get married. If you ever get a girl to go out with you, you should definitely marry her in June.

Sagittarius:

It is important that you catch many concert festivals featuring acts with names like Zim and the Bobways, Count Drunkula, Michael Jackson's Pool Party and Uncle Jesse.

Capricorn:

It is important that you avoid all concert festivals featuring acts with names such as "Ozzy."

Aquarius:

You will be asked to make changes this summer, as most of your friends do not consider swimming "bathing."

Pisces:

You will want to drink a lot of water to stay cool this summer. You will want it to be Dasani water. Man, that stuff is the greatest! The packaging. The color scheme. The taste. Unbelievable! That's incredible water.

Aries:

If summer's not going so well, don't worry. You'll be starting your 11th semester at JJC before you know it.

JJC organizational meeting of May

Association of Criminal Justice Students

May 17
1:30 p.m.; B-2005

Chess Club

May 3, 10, 17
5-9:30 p.m.; Cafeteria

Episcopian Club

May 17
2:15 p.m.; J-0010

Graphology

May 4
7-9 p.m.; B-1002

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

May 9
1-3 p.m.; G-2004

JC Players

May 3
3 p.m.; Theatre Lobby

Judo Club

Saturdays; 8-10 a.m.
Mondays and Wednesdays

9-11 a.m.; Gym

Newman Club

May 9

1 p.m.; C-Concourse

Parapsychology Club

May 18
7-9 p.m.; D-2001

Role Playing Club

May 7, 21
3-6 p.m.; Bridge

Student Alliance

May 3, 10
2-5:30 p.m.; Bridge

Vet Tech Club

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
3 p.m.; V-1016



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Packard gives Krauss gold star

Allison Krauss Forget About It

Plenty of women would sacrifice the last five years of their lives to have the looks of Shania Twain and Faith Hill. Faith and Shania would probably do the same to have the voice and taste of Allison Krauss.

She is to country music as Prince is to pop. Everyone in the community respects, admires and listens to her. They should give her a CMA every time she sings in the shower.

Krauss and her band, Union Station, have managed to outdo themselves with their best effort to date. *Forget About It* does not bury itself as deep into traditional bluegrass pickin' as their previous work, but it is raw and upholds the tradition of classy arrangements impecable musicianship.

The melodies, harmonies and song structures could not be better. Allison sings directly to your heart and your head simultaneously.

I like to think that I can produce an accurate and understandable description of almost any album. As I wonder if there is any way to illustrate this aesthetic treasure, I may as well just say *Forget About It*.

India Arie Acoustic Soul

The neo-soul movement is officially upon us. D'Angelo, Maxwell and Erykah Badu pushed the wagon down the hill a couple of years ago and a tuft of rising talents have jumped on. Among the most promising is India Arie.

Yes, she plays guitar. She also is schooled in a variety of homs.

Musicianship is the cornerstone of this musical movement and of this album. It is a carefully

Matt Packard's infamous CD Ratings Chart

***** - Excellent

**** - Great

*** - Good Tunes

** - Not worth the \$15

* - Not worth the wax

crafted blend of pure music and hip-hop elements.

India pays homage to her influences by actually naming them in little ditties that make up the intro, outro and interlude. She uses an entire song to honor her greatest inspiration, Stevie Wonder.

She is inspiring herself, especially on "Video." She teaches self-appreciation with lyrics like "Every freckle on my face is where it's supposed to be...Don't need your silicone, I prefer my own," which is probably the most valuable thing found in an MTV video in years.

She is endlessly thoughtful and introspective. She also works through sultry numbers like "Brown Skin" and the moving "Ready for Love."

She is one of a small handful of artists on R&B's rotation that is easy to respect, easy to learn from and someone to be proud of. She sings that she does whatever feels good to her soul. Chances are, what she does will also feel good to your soul.

Klepto The Never-Ending Power of Dividing

This is an interesting band name and an intriguing album title. SO, they're off to a good start. *The Never-Ending...* begins with a song called "A" and closes with a song called "Z," which is 15 min-

utes of nonsensical tangents that continues counting.

Klepto knows how to have a little fun. They also know how to craft some serious rock songs.

Dan Shaughnessy sings his imagery with a style (if not always a voice) much like the great Maynard James Keenan (Tool).

Basist, Matt Gronski, could draw some comparisons to Les Claypool, but then what fiery bassist couldn't?

Chris Willard suffers from what I like to call A.D.D. (attention deficit drumming), but it pays off. His adventurous activity makes some of the music somewhat unpredictable and lively.

Some nice riffs and interesting direction make the songs seem as if they could lead entirely separate lives on stage.

Still, their likes on *The Never-Ending...* are pretty solid themselves. For more information on the local band KLEPTO contact them at <http://www.klepto.tv>.

Please feel free
to bother me at
gnikniar11@aol.com

It's a
long
summer.

Pickle Week this May

by Michelle Tarrant

May 8 is National "No Socks Day." Yup. That's right folks. Take off those stinky, sweaty cotton woolies and dump em in your laundry basket today. Go barefoot, wear sandals and await the coming of sock-less summer days.

Think things can't get any weirder than that? Try holding out for National Pickle Week which runs May 18-28. Ten glorious days of dill, kosher and sweet pickles to accompany every meal. So slam your pickle on a stick and CELEBRATE!

Some of the wackiest of wacked out holidays occur later in the year. Most people associate July 4 with the red, white and blue. Not in the land of the warped. Bust out your best ben, because it's National Oatman Sidewalk Egg

Frying Contest. So, while everyone else is lighting up a sparkler, ask them what they want on their omelet.

Here is one for the JJC student. July 15 is "Cow Appreciation Day." So don't go over to Farmer Stinky Arbuckles old place and tip big Bessie. Instead show her a little bit of love.

Another lazy summer night in August? Not anymore. Break out the veggies because it's "Sneak Some Zucchini Onto Your Neighbors Porch Night." This is totally true and practiced by some Americans. So throw on some black face paint and leave your neighbor a nice surprise.

For information on Wacky Holiday eCards go to <http://www.thebluemountain.com/eng/3/unusual/>.

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- If you have difficulty, please call the Registration Office at (815) 744-2200.
- You can obtain a class schedule by calling 815-744-JJCI or see www.jjc.cc.il.us for a listing of summer and fall courses.

Touch-Tone Registration



Odds and ends in sports

Well, another school year is coming to an end and summer is finally within sight. That means baseball season is in full swing and I am proud to say that my Cubs have not yet been eliminated from the pennant race. In fact, at the time this is being written, they stand at 13-8 and are in sole possession of first place in the National League's Central Division. The pitching staff has been unbelievable and even though the offense hasn't clicked yet, they seem to be doing enough to get the job done. If the Cubs make the playoffs and Sammy Sosa doesn't win MVP, that award will be forever tarnished in my eyes. Yankees beware, the Cubbies are on fire!

Chicago's other team, the White Sox are, as I predicted, struggling mightily. As of now, they hold a record of 7-13. Not to say I told you so, but I TOLD YOU SO!!! The Minnesota Twins and the Cleveland Indians are running away from the rest of the A.L. Central division. The Sox pitching is paper-thin and now their vaunted lineup of sluggers can't hit. The one bright spot has been Paul Konerko. The Big Hurt has been hitting more like The Big Skirt we all remember from '98 and '99. His whining about only making \$10 million per season doesn't help his image or popularity either.

Sports Opinion

by Adam Satorius

Let's turn our attention to the NBA playoffs. Personally, I find the NBA very boring, except for Allen Iverson. Iverson is the baddest thing in sneakers since Michael Jordan. I have my doubts about Jordan being any better offensively or athletically than Iverson but Jordan was a much better defender, didn't carry himself like a thug, didn't blame his teammates and/or coach for losses, and never claimed he could be a platinum rap artist (don't worry Michael, neither can Allen). I love Allen Iverson as a player but his character is definitely questionable. I'll still cheer for him and Philly!

Now a brief word about the JJC Athletic Department. Did they fumble the ball this year or what? First, last fall someone in charge forgot how to count because the football team had more out-of-state players than are allowed and were forced to forfeit several victories and turn down an invitation to play in the Pepsi Bowl. How sad is that? JJC finally fields a good football team and they still find some way to screw it all up.

Anyone need a refresher course in basic math? Counting goes a little something like this: One, two, three, well you get it, I hope.

If that wasn't enough, later in the year the department pulled the plug on the women's basketball season midway through it. How pathetic! There were still six players on the team and last time I checked only five could play at a time. Maybe they wouldn't have fared very well but just giving up in the middle of the season looks and is very cheap.

I guess all the hard work that the players that were still around and the coaching staff had put in was worthless if it couldn't produce victories. Winning isn't always everything. A lot of the athletes here are just happy to be playing the sport they love at a competitive level and while everyone wants to win, losing is no reason to scrap an entire program's season. Someone in the athletic department needs to take a hard look at things and pledge to do a better job in the future.

Well everyone have a great summer! I'll be transferring to St. Francis in the fall. Remember there's nothing wrong with being critical of anything. Ask questions, be inquisitive, be annoying if you must, but never be afraid to make your thoughts known.

Athlete of the Issue:

Kevin Boyd

by Lorraine Guerrera

One common answer from Joliet Junior College athletes is that they thank their parents for getting them into sports and positive reinforcement along the way. This rings true for freshman baseball player, Kevin Boyd.

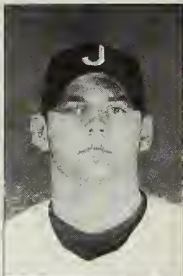
"I thank my dad for getting me into it. He pushed me and took time to teach me the game," Boyd smiles.

"I thank my dad for getting me into it [baseball]."
-Kevin Boyd.

Boyd's father, Kenneth Boyd took him to play little league at Homestead Park in Highland, Indiana when he was eight. He played little league until he was 15 years old at Homestead Park. Boyd continued playing baseball at Highland High school, where he played both pitcher and shortstop.

He says that a few of his career highlights included going to the final four his junior and senior years.

But now that 6'4" Boyd plays hardball for the Wolves he thinks



Athlete of the Issue Kevin Boyd
Courtesy JJC Athletic Department

has game has matured.

"While playing at JJC, I've been able to play with better players and better competition which has helped me improve my game," Boyd says.

Boyd is majoring in communications. He wants to be a broadcaster for sports team preferably the Chicago Cubs.

Your next chance to bring Mom or Dad to a baseball game and cheer on the Wolves is Friday May fourth at JJC. Wolves will be starting the regional playoffs.

Sports Briefs



Courtesy of JJC web-site

Baseball

April 25, South Suburban 12, JJC 1. The Wolves got a single and triple from Andrew Gallagher. Mike Maher doubled and Billy Glasscock singled. Ryan Coughill had the lone RBI for the Wolves, now 18-27.

April 24: JJC 11, Morton 1. Sophomore Jason Vitas (2-2) threw a seven-inning four-batter with seven strikeouts and one walk. Offensively, third baseman Kevin Boyd kept up his torrid pace with a 3-for-4 performance, including a triple and three RBIs.

Softball

April 24: South Suburban 11-11, JJC 3-2. In Game 1, Sheryl Kyriacopoulos had two hits and two RBIs. Emily Hartline and Caite Anderson had two hits. Kellie Lynn added a sacrifice fly. In Game 2 for the Wolves, now 16-35 overall, Kyriacopoulos doubled. Hacked! and Heather Pope posted the other two hits for JJC.

Mens Tennis

April 25: Rock Valley 9, JJC 0. The loss dropped the Wolves' record to 5-3 overall and 0-2 in the NAC.

See you next year for fall sports

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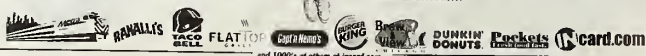


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JJC time capsule buried

by Scott Bessler

In commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of Joliet Junior College, America's oldest community college, a centennial time capsule was buried on Oct. 3. In honor of JJC's past, present and future.

Lisa Hellman, events specialist for the centennial celebration, along with a specialized centennial celebration committee coordinated the event. "The committee discussed different activities to commemorate the centennial," said Hellman. This was something that other schools were doing, according to Hellman.

"We received approximately 100 items from all the departments," said Hellman. Centennial license plates, pennants, pom-poms, ornaments, pins and stickers were among the items donated for burial in the time capsule. Also included in the capsule were athletic, centennial and academic related news articles.



English Professor, Ted Thompson places an item into time capsule. Contents of the capsule will be unearthed in September of 2051.

Photo by Katie Waieg

The capsule also included newspaper front-pages from the day after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York

City, the Pentagon, and Pennsylvania which occurred on September 11, the original date for the time capsule burial ceremony.

The ceremony was rescheduled and held on Oct. 3 at noon in front of the Bell Tower, located on Main Campus. The event was held to present each of the items being placed in the time capsule. The items were each read off with a brief description by Hellman and placed in the capsule by Ted Thompson, the college's highest seniority faculty member.

Each of the items was individually wrapped in plastic bags for best preservation, and placed in an airtight vault, donated by Blackburn-Giegerich-Sonntag Funeral Home, in Joliet. A large boulder from Olson and Trust Memorials, will be placed on top of the burial site with a commemorative plaque on it.

The time capsule is set to be unearthed in September 2051, on the college's 150th birthday. "I think it would be real exciting to still be around when the capsule is exhumed," said Hellman, "especially for any current students."

Student body recovers from attacks

by Lisa Widlowski

Now that the dust has cleared from the tragic events of Sept. 11th, where do we stand now?

There were many activities and resources made available to the college community on campus at Joliet Junior College.

There was a crisis team put in place to serve the students and staff. The "need help" people seemed to be everywhere ready to help with any questions, problems or just to listen. A hot line was also set up which was widely used for simple questions or serious thought on the situation.

Roxane Geraci, Director of Community Relations was a key member of this crisis team and one of the creators of the on-line survey. "I commend the whole crisis team, and the students," Geraci said.

She and the whole crisis team felt it was important for the students to have somewhere to go. The whole team encouraged students to voice opinions and reactions toward the attacks. This, in turn helped the JJC community get

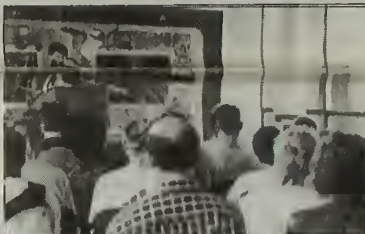
back to its normal routines.

The on-line survey received about fifty responses. There were two main questions they got back from the survey. People wanted to know why school was not cancelled, and what kind of security was provided. School was not closed because there was no immediate danger on campus, and the administration did not want to cause any panic.

There was extra security provided according to Steven Bennett, the campus Chief of Police. At the beginning of each semester our campus security is supplemented by A and R security of Chicago. They help direct the traffic the first few weeks of school. Their services were extended by one week due to the events of Sept 11. However, security is now back to normal staffing.

"Given how terrorists act, we don't know what's going to happen and we can't live in fear," said Bennett.

The Manufacturing Club, lead by teacher Joe Gladkowski, collected money for the Red Cross. At present time, they have collected



Names were read on the bridge in honor of those lost in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Photo by Jessica Harvey

\$1,157 and are still waiting for the money from North Campus.

"One person can really make a difference," said Gladkowski, while telling a story about an anonymous donor here at JJC.

"One day a student came into the manufacturing office asking if this was where money was being collected. He acted very nervous. Once he was convinced it was legitimate he handed over eighteen

crumpled up dollars.

"As the receipt was being written, the student said he wanted to remain anonymous. He left by saying, 'Please see that the right people get the money.' After he left, the teacher realized something was different about this donation. The way he crumpled his money and his parting words made the teacher realize this student had given all the money he had."

Locker break-ins strike colleges' main campus

by Kristin Hulva

Student locker security has become an issue on Joliet Junior College's main campus.

This semester, there have been four reports of lockers being broken into.

Steven Bennett, director of public safety and the chief of police, says that this is the first time that he has had to deal with student lockers being broken into in the hallways. The past prob-

lems have been in the locker rooms.

Of the four lockers broken into this year, two have been in the locker rooms and two have been in the hallways. Items targeted are school textbooks.

"The best precaution for students to take," said Bennett, "is to purchase a maximum security lock."

Bennett said there is not a lot JJC can do for a student who has

had something stolen. The lockers at JJC are offered at the students' own risk because insurance on them would be too costly. The campus police have so far been unable to connect anyone to these locker thefts.

"We need the community to be the eyes and ears around JJC. If you see something suspicious, then please give us a call," said Bennett.

Breaking into lockers and

stealing is a violation of the code of conduct. Violating this code of conduct may result in expulsion or an arrest of the person or persons involved.

"Everyone needs to do good their personal items," added Bennett.

For more information or to report something to the campus police please call 280-2301, or if it is an emergency the number is 280-2911.

Security in the halls is everyone's responsibility

by Danna Billings

As reported on a front page story, a string of four locker thefts have taken place on the JJC main campus this fall. While lockers have been broken into in the past and locker rooms on campus, this is the first time students have reported hallway lockers being broken into. Of the four locker thefts this fall, two of the lockers were in the hallway, and the other two were in the locker rooms. To top it all, the break-ins apparently took place in daylight.

One of the targeted lockers was mine. After going through a

line of staff on campus, all who were extremely helpful, I was told that all I could do was file a report with Campus Police.

I immediately went to file a report. Everyone was very cooperative. The officer who filled out the report even took the time to follow up with me on at least two separate occasions. He suggested that I call the JJC Textbook store on Hooksett Road as well as the JJC Bookstore and then wait and see what happens.

Waiting is what I have been doing for he past few weeks. I know it is physically impossible for every square-foot of the campus to

be monitored at all time, however, when something like this does occur, the victims still feel the need for some form of compensation.

After putting some rational thought into the situation, I have come to the conclusion that, though I would like compensation, there is a bigger problem at hand. Not only have I lost a considerable amount of money, I have been robbed of my education. Without my books, I am unable to fully participate in class, and I get confused when I attempt to do my homework. The books have price tags, they can be bought back. My education, however, is priceless.

After anger, another reaction to the locker theft is pointing the finger. There has to be a responsible party.

"The campus is not secure enough," some say, while others seek to bring the thief to justice. Those are both legitimate thoughts, but in reality, there are other responsible people, even besides the thief. Every student on campus who have noticed a suspicious person at lockers and let it go unnoticed is responsible. Every friend who is covering for the thief has a part in this offense.

Even the four students who have had items stolen need to step

up to the plate. When a student rents a locker, it is at their own risk. In my case, I used a "cute" locker versus a durable lock. I left items of value in my locker for days at a hanging in the locker as decoration.

My heart sank when I opened my unlocked locker to find absolutely nothing left.

Despite the awfulness of these thefts, I have learned three life-lessons. From books to pictures, most everything is replaceable with a duplicate. Cuteness does not always matter. And, finally, never take the gift of an education lightly.

Editorial

JJC has a club for everyone

On Sept. 19 and 20 Main Street was held between the B and G hallways from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This is a time when representatives set up tables and give information on their organization.

This event, held every semester, educates students about clubs that are offered at the college.

With about 40 clubs offered for students, there is a club for just about everyone.

We at the Blazer feel it is very important to find time to be in a

club. Clubs are a great place to meet people with your own interest and to find a way to relax. Clubs promote teamwork, which is one of the best characteristics to have when looking for a job in the real world.

JJC's clubs range from honorary organizations, special interest groups, sports related organizations, multicultural organizations, career-related organizations, and Christian fellowship. Most of these clubs meet twice a month.

If you have an interest in sports, JJC offers judo, soccer, and rugby clubs. Students who want to be in a club but can't find one that interests them, should keep in mind that they can always start their own club. To begin a new club you have to have at least ten members.

For more information about the clubs offered at JJC, you can visit the web site at jje.cc.il.us and click on "events" at the bottom of the web page. This is where you will find the list of clubs offered.

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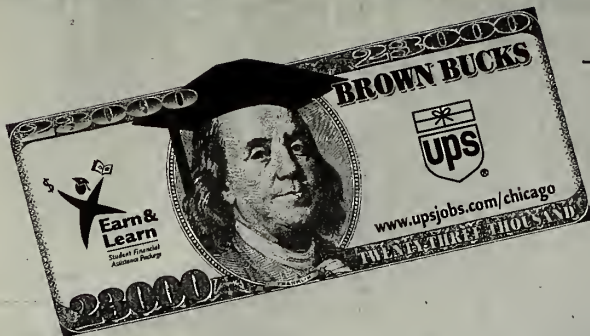
A representative will be on Campus Oct. 16 from 10-1 on the Bridge

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Tutor kids in reading, math

by Kristin Henschel

Making a difference in a child's life can be a very rewarding experience. America Reads America Counts gives you the opportunity to do just that by tutoring young children in reading and math. America Reads America Counts is designed to help grade school children with reading skills (America Reads) and math skills (America Counts).

To be eligible to participate you must first fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid and be approved. Also, to help with reading the minimum GPA is 2.0 and to help with math it is 2.5. After being approved there is a training session students must attend at the Joliet Public Library. Each child is then paired up with a student from Joliet Junior College. They then meet at one of the various schools or at the Joliet or

Lockport Library.

When a student signs up for this program they must be committed. The child depends on them and looks forward to seeing them. The children look up to the college students as role models. The students themselves are representatives of JJC.

If building a relationship with a child while helping improve their academic skills is not enough of an incentive, there is another plus. JJC student tutors are paid \$7.50 per hour. The number of hours a student may tutor depends on their eligibility, not exceeding 20 hours. Students are paid every two weeks and their paycheck is mailed directly to their house. America Reads America Counts is now going into its fifth year with around a dozen students actively participating.

"There is a fulfillment in helping children and seeing them progress," says Diane Kozlowski, contact of America Reads America Counts.

Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office, J1045. For further information call (815)280-2528.

Former U.S. State Department official meets JJC honor students

by Katie Saleg

Diane Minotti, former director of the U.S. State Department Funded Academy for Educational Development in the Republic of Georgia, spoke at Joliet Junior College Honor Students' Forum on Tuesday, Sept. 25.

Minotti, once a resident of Joliet, came back to visit friends and family and was asked to speak to the Honor Students. This is her third visit. It served as an update of



Diane Minotti visits JJC on Sept. 25. Photo by Katie Saleg.

what she has been doing in the Republic of Georgia and the struggle the country continues to go through in trying to become a democracy.

Question of the Issue:

What was the most memorable thing that happened to you this summer?



Lora Ricketts

"My fiancé and I had a long distance relationship. He was coming down for a visit and I drank quite a bit because I was so nervous. We went to the movies and when it was over I tripped and fell into another man's lap."



Kevin Charles Keaton

"I got in a crazy car accident. The car flipped over and I got hit with a bowling ball in the spinning madness."



Sandra McDaniel

"I witnessed a car accident in Joliet, where a mother, pushing her child was hit by a car. I put my car in park, ran out, stopped all the traffic and aided the mother and baby until the ambulance came."



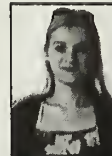
Jim Benzik

"I pole danced at a party."



Matt Rektorski

"I went to the Kotton Mouth Kings concert and got to meet them."



Jessica Workman

"I almost got blown up by a bottle rocket."

Photos and copy by Jessica Harvey

News Briefs

Campus Security: Everyone driving on campus, please beware of deer crossings with time change and dusk. It is mating season, so drive safe and be alert.

Centennial Calendar: JJC will house the Annual Conference of the West Lakes Division of the Association of American Geographers Oct. 11-13. The Centennial Counseling Department Reception will be held on Oct. 22 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in J-004.

Learning Resource Center: There are four more demo sessions this month. These demos

will guide you on how to find information through the library and the Internet.

Phi Theta Kappa: There is a general meeting on the Bridge on Oct. 18 at 6:00 p.m. There will be a two-day Tasty Apple Sale. The first day is Oct. 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and the second day is Oct. 25 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The sale will be held in the J and D buildings.

Student Ambassadors: On the evening of Oct. 16, JJC will host College Night at the Main Campus.

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Petition for safety circulated

by Kristin Hulva

More than a hundred students, faculty and staff members at JJC have signed a petition asking for increased security on campus at night. The petition, started by a student, asks for more police to be hired and for better lighting in the parking lots. Students and staff who signed this petition want to see more police officers patrolling the lots.

"Being a female, I would feel safer with more police presence when I come out of my night classes," said Elizabeth Miller a student at JJC.

Steven Bennett, the director of public safety and the chief of police, said that on a given night there could range anyone from two to four officers on duty.

For students that don't feel safe on campus there is an escort service that you may request or a community service assistance that will escort you to your classes or car. In the past JJC offered a Nextel radio so that the student could directly communicate with police. These were mostly handed out to students battling a domestic

dispute.

For those students that want to see immediate action Bennett said that the horticulture department is working on replacing the yellow light bulbs in parking lots to white.

Other opinions to make students feel safer is a system called the Key-Box. Although this system would be very expensive it would entitle every student to a "clicker" at time of registration. The clicker would allow a student to set off the call boxes during a time of emergency. A student can be as far as 40-50 feet away from the emergency box and still set it off.

"I encourage students to go in groups to your cars at night, park next to a friend, or even car pool to your classes," said Bennett.

Dr. Alan Hardersen, vice president for student services, could not be reached for comments concerning the 104 signatures on the safety petition.

Campus police wants to hear any ideas that a student has to make the campus a safer place.

For suggestions on making the campus safer, the campus police can be reached at 280-2301.

Tuition will increase in the spring

by Danna Billings

The average increase in tuition for state schools is about 10 percent per year. Joliet Junior College has approved only a six and a half percent increase over the next two years, or a three and a quarter percent increase per year.

This increase will go into effect in the Spring semester of 2002. Tuition will rise from \$46 per credit hour to \$49 per credit hour.

The board approved the three

dollar increase after discussing the proposal amongst themselves. The Student Alliance, which represents students on campus, also discussed the issue at their September meeting.

The original plan, according to Dr. Alan Hardersen, Vice President for Student Services, had called for a two dollar increase in both the fall semester of 2001 and 2002.

The approved increase, however, will cover through the spring semester of 2003. So, students will

not have to pay another increase until the summer of 2003.

When a tuition increase is needed, one of the first questions to be asked is, "Why?"

The board asks that question, too. Just as living costs rise within the community, so does the cost of running a school.

"These monies will go for hiring additional staff and continue to maintain the rising cost of salaries, heating, lighting and travel," said Hardersen.

Former JJC student and Blazer staff member has become a new name in the world of horror

by Jason Baloun

Many people seem to think that authors are old men and women who lock themselves in their homes and chain themselves to their keyboards. Well Mike Oliveri doesn't fit that cliché. Joliet Junior College was home to Mike in 1993, and again from the summer of 1998 through December of 1999.

This year Oliveri's horror novel, *Deadliest of the Species*, was published by Vox 13 Publications, a small-press, independent publisher. It was his first novel.

Like many writers, Mike loved to read and write short action stories from a young age. He never really considered trying to get published, until a high school teacher told him that he had a talent.

He's been submitting work ever since, and says, "I've been getting better and having more success each year." When asked about the inevitability of getting those rejection slips, Mike stated, "you have to swallow your pride and

accept criticism...You'll collect a lot more rejection slips then you will acceptance letters, so don't let them discourage you."



Mike Oliveri

Photo courtesy of Mike Oliveri

Mike Oliveri won three awards in the 2000 Illinois Community College Journalism Association contest. He won first place for opinion writing; first place for sports news writing; and second place for sports feature. He also worked for the Blazer during the 1999-2000 school year.

Mike has been involved in the Horror Writers Association (www.horror.org), which opened up quite a few doors for him. This association offers a monthly newsletter with useful articles and market listings, an online members-only message board, and also the opportunity for new writers to pair up with professional volunteers. He stated that getting involved in organizations such as this is very important because "it gets people used to seeing my name around, hopefully it will sound familiar when they see my name on a book jacket!"

Mike's advice for new writers is to simply keep writing, don't get frustrated with criticism or rejections, and get involved with associations that deal with your genre. He is currently working on a second novel, and trying to market *Deadliest of the Species* to a mass-market paperback publisher. To find out more about Mike Oliveri, read a sample of his work, or ask him any questions go to www.mikeoliveri.com.

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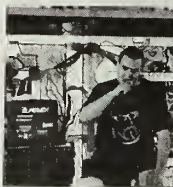
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Karaoke hits bridge for Halloween

by Molly McKeon

Beginning on Wednesday, Oct. 31, the famous "Karaoke on the Bridge" will resume for the first time this year. Students will once again be able to showcase their vocal talent, or lack of vocal talent, in front of an audience of fellow classmates in the Bridge of the Main Campus. There are a wide variety of songs to choose from and free popcorn. Karaoke is from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Along with karaoke, the Student Services department is



A student karokes on the bridge. Blazer file photo

putting on a semi-new activity called "Music Video Bingo" on Nov. 7. The idea was introduced last year and was very popular among the student body. Students also have a chance at winning \$200.00 in cash prizes.

For further information on these activities or other Student Services related activities and upcoming events contact the head of the department, Anissa Jones, at 280-2755 or simply stop by the Student Services office on the Bridge.

MOVIE REVIEWS

by Geoff Scofield

Hardball

Starring: Keanu Reeves, Diane Lane
Directed: Brian Robbins

Keanu Reeves stars in a film that some say to be the next "Bad News Bears", but I am going to disagree. This movie was great. The acting and the story were just incredible. I enjoyed it very much. Connor O'Neill (Reeves) is an indelible, compulsive gambling drunk, ticket scalper. One day he gets in trouble with a couple of bookies. Connor decides to go to one of his old friends for some help. His buddy proposes a deal that states, "I will give you five hundred dollars a week if you help me coach a little league team." Connor accepts, but when he gets to the field for some practice, he realizes that his friend has altered the deal. So Connor is stuck coaching kids from Chicago's projects until his season is up.

Watching Reeves character evolve into the gentleman he was at the end was remarkable. Hardball is rated PG-13 for some mild language and some mild violence. I suggest that every one sees this movie it was excellent and the ending would bring a tear to a glass eye.

The Musketeer

Starring: Justin Chambers, Mena Survari
Directed: Peter Hyams

The biggest hype about this movie is that famed Hong Kong choreographer, Xing Xin Xiong, choreographed the stunts. Other than that the film was not that entertaining.

The film starts after an obscenely long intro with a young D'Artagnan, the musketeer. This film is based upon, witnessing his parents' death and scaring the man who killed them. After all of that he vows to become a Musketeer. From there the movie jumps ten years to an older D'Artagnan still that still wants to become a musketeer. He has the challenge of bringing back the Musketeers into an elite united group again while searching for the gentleman, who murdered his parents.

The only good thing about this movie was the fighting. The fighting scenes were excellent but the rest of the movie I could have done without. The Musketeer is rated PG-13 for the great fighting scenes. I will be honest the movie was not that good. Bad acting just ruined the movie for me. I would recommend waiting for this movie to be available for rental.

Horoscopes

by Matt Packard

Aquarius: Some people will applaud your band for not selling out by doing videos and corporate gigs and such. But, most of us know you just suck.

Pisces: You will be tempted to help the struggling, young singer at your front door selling copies of her album. But, "Glitter" just doesn't sound like it would be very good.

Aries: Your long running suspicions regarding Bert and Emie will finally be confirmed. They are, indeed, puppets.

Taurus: Take advantage at work, where they offer \$300 for every friend that you refer to work there. You stand to make like \$600!

Gemini: Rationalize. If you buy 5 items that are 25% off, you are

actually saving like 125%! You're actually making money by shopping! Sweet!

Cancer: You will be deeply moved as you suddenly assimilate the beauty and social relevance of "Weekend at Bernie's."

Leo: Outlook hazy. Try again later.

Virgo: So, you finally called that horoscopes guy and told him how busy you've been. You'd love to get together with him. But to tell you the truth, he's not so sure he's interested anymore.

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Mainstreet brings students, clubs together

by Jessica Harvey

On Sept. 19 and 20 Mainstreet took control of the main concourse, with the intent of looking ahead to the 21st century.

Mainstreet, which takes place at the beginning of every semester, provides the opportunity for students to see what clubs, organizations and certain departments are offered at JJC. Clubs and organizations from the other JJC campuses may also participate in Mainstreet.

"The whole purpose of Mainstreet is for clubs and organizations to make their presence known on campus," says Pam Dilday, Coordinator of Student Activities.

There were 52 booths at Mainstreet this year. Clubs ranged from Parapsychology to Peers Promoting Wellness. The American Freedom Organization, a newly established club this semester, also participated in Mainstreet.



Students browse tables between classes at Mainstreet.

Photo by Jessica Harvey

JJC currently offers 37 established clubs. Oct. 1 was the deadline for requests to form a new club for this semester. Do not be discouraged if you planned on establishing a club, but missed the deadline. You can get organized and request to form a new club next semester. The deadline for the

spring semester is Dec. 5.

While Mainstreet proved to be interesting and informative some students were concerned about it's location.

"I think Mainstreet should be in a better location," says student, Mike Knapp. "It could possibly be in the cafeteria, so the halls aren't as crowded."

The majority of students were generally pleased with the overall atmosphere of Mainstreet.

"I enjoyed the social bonding between all the different classes and types of people at the school," says Drew Duzinskas, president of the Parapsychology Club.

Mainstreet offers the opportunity for students to find common interests with other people at JJC.

If you are interested in starting a club, or would like more information on clubs and organizations offered at JJC, you can contact Dilday at 280-2202 in the office of student activities.

Student agriculture association

by Lindsey Miller

With JJC's Mainstreet program, students got the chance to see many of the clubs the college has to offer. One of the numerous clubs with a booth set up was the SAA. What is the SAA? It is the Student Agriculture Association. Here at JJC, students who are actively working on getting a degree in an agriculture field, as well as other interested students, have the opportunity to be a part of this club.

The SAA is an affiliate of the national organization PAS (Postsecondary Agriculture Student Organization). The SAA is one of fifty-six chapters in eighteen states, making JJC one of five hundred fifty institutions to bring this program to students. Advisor Tammy Miller says that one of the organization's main goals this year is to participate more with the PAS's leadership conferences where students will be able to obtain skills that will help prepare them for the future.

Recently on Sept. 12, the eighty-member club got the chance to meet and catch up with some of the club members at the annual "Get Acquainted Picnic". With around seventy people attending, the members and honored guests went to Inwood Park to socialize, play a game of soft-

ball, and recognize the many scholarship winners the agriculture department has and acknowledge some of the scholarship donors. Some other possible upcoming events that the SAA is looking forward to having are a 3-on-3 basketball tournament, bowling tournament, and a "JIC Aggies" hat sale fund raiser. Another large event that the department holds and the SAA helps organize, is the Ag Career Days that is scheduled to be on Oct. 31 and Nov. 3. This is a noteworthy recruitment event for both the agriculture department and the college.

When asked why a student should join the SAA, Miller stated that it's a great chance for the students to promote the college and agriculture department through leadership. The club also gives the members an opportunity to get acquainted with other agriculture students. This is also a rare but an important chance for the members to meet and work with people who could possibly be involved with in their future careers.

The club holds meetings in the A-Building monthly on the first Wednesday of the month. The next meeting scheduled is Oct. 3. Anyone interested in seeing this club in action is more than welcomed to attend.

Student Alliance is your voice on campus

by Ruby Raymundo

The Student Alliance is the government on campus at Joliet Junior College.

These students have the chance to voice their opinions on situations that may affect the school.

Members of the student

alliance share their ideas with the faculty members of JJC which help them put these ideas into action.

Anyone who is a student at JJC can contribute their ideas by going to one of their meetings, which are held every Thursday at 3 p.m. in the academic center on the bridge.

By taking part in the Student Alliance, students can become more aware about what happens on the campus of JJC.

Students who have an idea of changes that should be made to make the campus a better place and want to see it happen should join the student alliance.

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Peers promoting wellness

by Lauren Madison

October is a very busy month for Pam Dilday of the Wellness Program and Peers Promoting Wellness. Oct. 9 was stress day, and the events such as free back and neck massages will be available to students who are starting to feel the pressures of a extra homework. There will also be tables set up with play-doh and bubbles. So set your inner child free and have fun.

National alcohol week will be

held in late October. Some events to look forward to are jeopardy, karaoke, and a club drug panel that consists of police officers, the head of the drug treatment center at St. Joseph's hospital, and people with personal experiences.

In addition, mini-carnival with the use of fatal vision goggles, and the sale of non-alcoholic drinks will be provided. The dates for these festivities will be Oct. 22-25. For more information, contact Pam Dilday in the student center.

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Lady Wolves take tourney title

by Tim Daly

The Joliet Junior College Volleyball team continued its winning ways by taking first place at the College of DuPage volleyball tournament Oct. 5-6. The Lady Wolves finished the tournament with a perfect 6-0 record and placed two players on the Chaparral Invite's All-Tournament Team, Rhannon Burleson and Carrie Hickok.

"(Rhannon) Burleson and Carrie Hickok really had great tournaments," said Coach Kim

McKay.

The Lady Wolves were one of only two Division III teams participating in the tournament. Six of the eight teams in the tournament were D-II teams.

"The scary thing is that we're getting better every time we step out on the court. It's every coach's dream," said McKay.

One of the Lady Wolves most valuable assets this season has been their ability to overcome adversity. With only two starters from last year's squad and injuries

to key players, the team has been able to stay focused. "Even with two starters out, everyone contributes and we can still be successful... I haven't had my starting line up on the court this entire season," said McKay.

With only three conference matches left, the Lady Wolves will be setting their sights on the regional tournament, which takes place on Nov. 2. The Wolves were upset in the finals of last year's regional and are eager to take the next step, the national tournament.



Lady Wolves continued their winning ways by taking the Chaparral Invitational Tournament at the College of DuPage Oct. 5 and 6.
Photo courtesy of JJC Sports Information

'Purple people eaters' gobble up Eagles offense

by Tim Daly

The football team won its fifth straight game of the season with a 40-12 thrashing of the Rock Valley Golden Eagles Saturday, Oct. 6. The win gives the Wolves a record of 5-1 and puts them in the driver's seat on the road to a post-season

bowl bid, and possibly a chance for a national championship game.

Defensively, the Wolves were dominant limiting their opponents to 179 total yards of offense. The Wolves allowed the Eagle running game only 15 yards rushing on 27 carries. The exclamation point on the defense's red-letter day would

have to be the fumbles caused category. The Wolves defensive pressure forced Rock Valley to lose the ball an astounding seven times.

But as well as the Wolves defense played, coaches are still not satisfied.

"We need player's skills to improve... we need to make fewer

errors," said defensive coordinator Joe Roman. "We set our goals high. We can play better."

Offensively, the Wolves ran up 468 yards of total offense for the day. Craig Duppong tallied his third 100-yard game of the season.

Duppong leads the team in rushing with 532 total yards for the season.

Also standing out offensively was Charles Frazier, a former All-State player for Chicago Hubbard.

The Wolves wrap up their season with three of their final games at Joliet Memorial Stadium. The Wolves take on the College of DuPage Oct. 13, and Grand Rapids Community College Oct. 20.

Athletes of the Issue

Becky Newcomb
Tennis



The Joliet Township graduate rode the momentum of singles victories against Rock Valley and Sauk Valley Community Colleges into the Region IV Division III/NAC Tournament at College of DuPage. Newcomb and teammate Shanel Dagger teamed up to take first place in doubles play. Newcomb and the girls tennis team now advance to the NCAA Division III national tournament this May in Tucson, Arizona.

Rhannon Burleson
Volleyball



The fiery Romeoville High School graduate recorded a team-leading 38 assists in the Lady Wolves victory over conference rival Triton College. Burleson and her Wolves currently hold the top spot in the Junior College Athletic Association's national rankings. The setter's jicy-cool composure has been a key ingredient to the Lady Wolves record breaking season.

Championship wrestling slams onto college campus

by Tim Daly

Professional wrestling makes its campus debut this month as Midwest Championship Wrestling rolls onto campus for a no-holds-barred, five match battle royale.

JJC's athletic department is hosting this special event.

"There's money to be made here," says Athletic Director Wayne King. "If this goes over with the students, we'd like to make this a regular event."

The evening's main event will be a title match between the MCW's reigning belt holder "Human Highlight Reel" Acid and former WWF high-flyer Donovan Morgan. Acid has risen quickly to the top of the MCW like a rocket, decimating opponents with his controversial lightning quick strike-

ing power and his lethal "Springboard 450", a move made famous by Acid. The young star looks to be tested by Morgan, though. MCW fans have spent the last month speculating on web site discussion boards whether experience will overcome youth in this battle of the young versus the restless.

Tickets to the event are \$18 each and are available in the athletic department at Joliet Junior College's Main Campus.

Quantities are limited and will be sold on a first come, first served basis. To reserve tickets, contact Stephanie at 815-280-2210. For more information, visit the Midwest Championship Wrestling web site at www.midwestchampionshipwrestling.com.

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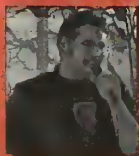
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Lady Wolves number 1 in nation

Football team beats North Dakota

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by Kristin Hulva

On Thursday, Oct. 11 the groundbreaking ceremony was held at 4 p.m. for the Joliet Junior College Student Residential Housing Development. This project, expected to cost 14 million dollars, is located just south of New Centennial Drive. The project has a target completion date of August 2002, allowing for residency in the fall semester.

The project is being funded by a private corporation.

Every year many prospective students seek housing assistance in District 525. These out-of-state students enroll in state and regional programs that JJC offers such as culinary arts, athletics, agriculture, horticulture, and veterinary medicine technology.

"Housing around campus is something more and more community colleges are going to see when you offer a wide variety of programs. This is a really positive thing when specialty education is offered at a junior college," said Roxane Geraci, director of community relations.

This state-of-the-art, gated community will house 296 students. Individual student's cost

will range anywhere from \$300 to \$400 hundred dollars a month, depending on the number of room-mates.

There will be 12 efficiency units, 96 two-bed/two bath unit, and 20 four-bed/two bath units. Each unit will have a living room, kitchen, and dining facilities. Also, there will be an outdoor swimming pool, sand volleyball courts, a clubhouse with recreation, laundry facilities and "group meeting spaces."

"Housing around campus is something more and more community colleges are going to see when you offer a wide variety of programs."

-Roxane Geraci

Joliet Junior College is not funding any of this project. The JJC foundation created the Housing Foundation Limited Liability Company that owns the property.

The LLC has an agreement with Century Development



The new apartments for college students will be located south of the new entry road to the campus shown here.

Photo by Kaye Butz

Corporation. CDC will operate the student-housing complex for the JJC Foundation. The JJC Foundation will then help refer students to this housing complex next to campus.

"We received three solid bids. The decision to go with Century Development Corporation was based on their years of experience, the number of projects they have

been involved with and their ability to manage the project," said Dr. Alan Hardersen, vice president for Student Services.

Students can look forward to each complex having air-conditioning, carpeting, tile and furniture. Each bedroom will have high-speed Internet connections. Students should look for a completion date around August 2002.

Registration headaches thing of past

by Scott Bessler

JJC students can look forward to a faster, more efficient and less troublesome method of registering for spring semester classes. In addition to registering via phone and in person, student class registration can now be performed online.

The combination of hardware and software upgrades of the college's computer network last year allowed this technology to become a reality at Joliet Junior College. Students and staff alike may be reminded of the registration "woes" that occurred last spring semester when the software was first upgraded. "The system was old and we needed to manage what we needed it to do," said Edward Johnson. "All hardware and software issues have been resolved," added Johnson.

The program that makes Internet registration possible is called WebAdvisor. The program itself is capable of much more than just student registration. Students will have the convenience of checking their financial and academic profile through the program's Internet portal.

"This program is much more user-friendly than the kiosks located

Johnson, counselor. The program is also easier to access. Students can log into it from virtually any internet-connected computer, on or off campus.

dent's intended transfer college.

Internet registration will officially begin on Nov. 13, the same date as traditional registration begins. It is open to current stu-

WebAdvisor, located on the left-hand column of the JJC home page, and proceed with instructions for registering their E-mail address and creating a password. Once

logged into the site, students will be able to take full advantage of the program's offerings, including class registration.

All Internet registration is performed "live", meaning that once the student has finalized their class selection, their reservation in the class is secured.

As with any computer system, security is an important issue. Students are encouraged to keep their login information private. Anyone with that information could potentially gain access to important, confidential student profiles.

New student registration will continue to be performed through group registration in person, and may be expanded to include a full student orientation of the campus.

Students seeking more information on internet registration can access the WebAdvisor home page from the JJC home page at



Students signing up for spring semester classes last year were met with long lines and a troublesome registration process. This year's registration should run much smoother with the introduction of internet

Further possibilities of the software include the ability for counselors to input a student's intended major and transfer school into the system. It could then create a complete college plan for the student based upon degree

students with a valid e-mail address, and who have no outstanding financial obligations or restrictions.

Students desiring to register via Internet registration must first log onto the JJC website at <http://www.jjc.cc.il.us>. Students

Blazer file photo

Letters to the editor

'This generation consists of babies, whiners'

I'm a student here at JJC and upon reading a couple of articles in your previous edition, "Generations, How Do We Stack Up" and "There's No Place Like Home," I found your points conflicting.

This is a generation of babies and whiners. How could our generation "stack up" to the standards set by previous generations if we're afraid to move out of our parents' homes?

"Generations..." generally dealt with the question—could today's generation of Americans recreate the effort put forth by their previous generations. Partly what bothers me about this article is that the editorialist failed to notice what a ridiculous question this is. The question is presumptuous and speculative and loaded to cause conflict.

Who's to say which generation is better? Value judgements like this are impractical. They wind up sounding accusative and really aren't good for anything but starting trouble. They are just too vague.

For example, the entire population of American twenty-somethings of the sixties cannot be grouped together as being of one philosophy. It's simply too inaccurate.

The second article was more unbiased and factual but directly related by example. It was based on an interview with a student here at JJC who had decided that it was not in his best interest to move out of his parents' house.

I understand this point of view and congratulate him on his honesty. There are many students here who still live at home. There real-

ly isn't anything wrong with that. But this is where the conflict lies. In "There's No Place Like Home" the student being interviewed is put in a place where he has to justify himself. Why does he feel as though he needs to rationalize his residence? I got two impressions.

First, the real reason he hasn't left home was that he was afraid of failing "in the real world" and letting his parents down. The second was that he was terrified.

How will an entire generation of people who are afraid to move out of their parents' homes live up to the standards set by previous generations. We don't seem to be taking any risks. We're nesting. Comparing generations simply isn't fair to either side. People react to their surroundings. People adapt.

I agree with Mr. Burke, the

gentleman interviewed in "There's No Place Like Home." The real world is tough, I'll attest to that. But that pampered welcome feeling that we're getting at home is starting to show.

I think I'm starting to notice some of this generation hiding from the real world. Worst of all we're starting to expect too much from people who are not our parents. And at this point in our lives we really shouldn't even expect anything from them. There seems to be a general feeling of entitlement. We aren't entitled to anything.

I've seen examples of this here at JJC. I don't understand why students complain that "JJC sucks" or that "it's just like high school" but then when asked to write a 2500 word essay, someone inevitably asks "can't we just watch the

movie?"

To me, that's a contradiction. Shouldn't we want to do the work? I don't understand. Is JJC too easy? Is it too hard? It seems to me that this is a generation of whiners. We don't want to do anything. We spend too much time comparing ourselves to characters we see on television.

We justify ourselves by watching talk shows and we belittle ourselves by wondering why our lives aren't comparable to sitcom characters. We don't spend enough time thinking about real life. I just don't see this generation having the energy to respond to the call of duty. We've become complacent, lethargic, ignorant, and it's starting to show.

Faithful Reader,
Matthew Berger

Staff, students take part in survey

Last spring while taking part in a club function at JJC I was subjected to harassment by another student because of my bisexual orientation. That and other incidents on campus led to my decision, along with my friend Marty Davis, to conduct a survey this fall about attitudes towards homosexuality and sex on the JJC campus. The survey results are printed on this page.

Marty and I came up with the questions for the survey. The questions were ones we felt were issues that needed to be addressed on campus, so we didn't want to keep it all directed towards one issue. We received no club support or school backing for the survey. Through the help of volunteers and willing club members allowing the survey to be put on their tables, we were able to get it out to the student body at Main Street, and even got it passed out in some willing teacher's classrooms.

Just the act of giving the survey to people itself showed the stu-

Survey Results:

Do you feel that JJC is a comfortable environment for homosexual students?

Yes - 128 No - 47 Maybe - 4
N/A 6

Would you like to see anti-homophobic events on campus?

Yes - 117 No 59 Maybe - 2
N/A - 5

Would you like JJC to make contraceptives available on campus?

Yes - 151 No - 32 Maybe - 1
N/A - 1

issue of homophobia on campus needs to be addressed. A lot of people didn't even know what the word "Anti-homophobic" meant. Some people refused to even fill

Do you think harassment based on sexual preference should be considered sexual harassment in the JJC Student Code of Conduct?

Yes - 158 No - 25 N/A - 2

Do you think there should be a general harassment policy on campus?

Yes - 166 No - 16 N/A - 3

out the survey, looking at my friends and I as if we were disgusting.

Given the results of the survey, I think that JJC needs to take a

more active stance in discouraging gay-bashing and hate crimes (of all sorts) on campus. One of my suggestions for the college is in the survey—Why not include in the student code of conduct sexual harassment based on sexual preference?

Also, there are plenty of non-profit organizations that offer educational seminars on college campuses.

A way to get students to go would be if some of these seminars were included in next year's student leadership series. (Student clubs receive more money if their club members attend every seminar.)

If you put your mind to it, there are many resources available to educate people.

The results of our survey shows that people are interested in that education.

Jennifer Crones

Letter Policy

The *Blazer* encourages participation from readers through letters.

Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and sender. All letters should be kept to 300

words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, email, or by dropping them off at the *Blazer* office at

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Aftermath from Sept. 11

In the aftermath of the events of the terrorist attacks against our country, we as people find ourselves in search of answers. We are saddened by this tragedy, but we must persevere through it. We must not let these cowardly achieve their goal of making our society of people afraid. Terrorists want people to be afraid, they want to disrupt our way of life, and they want to take our freedom away from us.

We must remember those who gave their lives so that we could enjoy that freedom, and that their sacrifice would not be in vain. We cannot sit complacently. We as people must act in ways to help and support our brothers and sisters. We must stop terrorism by any means necessary. Let us remind ourselves of our own duties as people who live in this country. In his inauguration address, President

Kennedy told people to "ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country." And that is exactly what we must do as Americans. Ask yourselves, "What can I do to for my country?" Yes, wear your red, white and blue, but also be patriotic by getting involved. Your country needs you now more than ever. Raise money for the victims' families or for our heroes at ground zero. Get in touch with your local VFW. Support our men and women that are in the military. Donate clothes or food to the people who are in need. Donate money to the various organizations that are involved with the relief effort. DO SOMETHING!

The American Freedom
Organization (AFO)

School sponsored event's: how much should students pay?

When college events are sponsored by the college and when the Athletic Department is already receiving Student Activity Fee funds, events should be at a lesser price for the JJC student.

The price of \$18 is entirely too high for the championship wrestling event that is coming to JJC. Students are already paying an activity fee. We must have a lower price for students for such events.

The theater department charges students \$2.00 for shows, which is a lower than the normal price that is charged for those shows. Why is it that the Athletic Department isn't required to do the same?

It isn't fair to students who want to attend to charge \$18 with

\$5 going to athletics, to see this wrestling event. We have an obligation as student leaders to stand for what is right. If this institution is going to continue to charge students for an activity fee, should we be charging full price to our students?

Don Terry
Student Alliance
VP of Cultural Diversity



Our Views

Student housing, it's about time

Student housing is coming to Joliet Junior College, and we the staff of The Blazer welcome the student housing and all of the changes that will come with it. Our college, and other junior colleges across the nation, struggle with the problem of bringing a sense of school spirit to a student population that commutes and generally spends little time at their campus. Students living in campus housing could be the seed that would eventually blossom into a sense of school spirit at JJC.

Student housing at community colleges is not a new thing. There are several different schools in several different states that have used student housing successfully. Junior colleges in North Dakota have had student housing for over

fifty years. A junior college in Illinois, Blackhawk Community College, has successfully used campus housing for two years. There are bound to be new problems brought about by the housing, but the benefits to the student body should overshadow any new headaches the housing may give rise to.

Independent students who move to the area and have lived in rentals in the past will have a cheap, safe alternative to apartments. It is inevitable that there are going to be students from areas outside of our community who move to the area to attend JJC. Student housing will help these students make the transition from being taken care of at home to living independently.

It will be interesting to see if the student housing affects JJC's athletic programs. Recruiting will most likely become much easier with the student housing being made available. After farfailing last year's football season caused by an out of state player's violation (we had too many), the question needs to be asked, "will our athletic teams find some way to provide players with housing?" Junior colleges are not allowed to provide athletes with housing period. After hearing story after story of improprieties being committed by collegiate athletic programs, we are skeptical. Hopefully the student housing is used in the manner for which it is intended, and not as an athletic dormitory.

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women's
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and the



men's football team on
their outstanding seasons!!

Campus promotes alcohol awareness March held at Joliet's Eastside

By Molly McKeon

During the week of Oct. 22-26 on the Center Bridge, Joliet Junior College participated in the National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness week that focuses on informing students about drugs, alcoholism and their harmful effects.

Pam Dilday, head of the Department of Student services, organized the activities held that week. "The purpose of this is to make students more aware about what alcohol and drugs can do to someone," Dilday said. "The only way to prevent is to inform."

Sponsored by Peers Promoting Wellness and Holistic Wellness, each day of the week featured special activities, games and panels for students to participate in. Monday, Oct. 22 featured Fatal Vision Game Day where students were able to simulate alcohol intoxication over the legal limit of .08. The purpose of this game is to show students just how much alcohol can impair

your senses and effect your normal, everyday actions.

Tuesday, Oct. 23 featured a panel of individuals with personal experience with the use of Club Drugs and their effects on us today.

On Wednesday, Oct. 24, students were able to test their knowledge of alcohol and drugs by playing Alcohol Jeopardy. Prizes were awarded to the winner.

Thursday, Oct. 25, featured Karaoke on the bridge and a Mocktail Bar where non-alcoholic beverages were served along with popcorn.

"These days, alcohol is a socially acceptable drug," said



Photo by Jessica Harvey
Dilday, "But students need to have limits and learn to drink responsibly. Its better that way in the long run."

by Ruby Raymundo

State Rep. Jack McGuire urged members of the Joliet community and surrounding areas to join him Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2001 at Joliet Central High School to participate in the "Take Back the Night" march. The march served to raise awareness about violence against women and to give victims an opportunity to have their voices heard. They have the chance to help other women be less afraid to speak out for themselves.

In response to a series of violent crimes against women in Germany in 1973, "Take Back the Night" was introduced to the US in 1978. The idea behind the march is to provide support and services for the victims of violent crimes including domestic violence, murder, and even rape.

"The march was held on the east side and it helped to get more people aware of what we were doing," said Laura McGuire a pro-

fesser in JJC's nursing department. "We also had a beautiful day which gave us a great turn out." With a police escort and about 200-300 people participating, the event did not go unnoticed. High school kids and local politicians

"The march was held on the east side and it helped to get more people aware of what we were doing,"

-Laura McGuire

also took part in the march.

This is the fifth year the event has been held in Will County. In addition to the march, there were three guest speakers, and information on how to help victims of violence and on local organizations was made available. Proceeds from the event benefit the Groundwork Battered Women's Shelter in Joliet.

Question of the Issue:

What was your best Halloween moment?



Katy Ayers

"Our ouiji board levitated."



Scott Hopkins

"A bunch of very scary people followed me home and almost killed me."



Denise Dolnack

"I almost got in a fight with a drunken hillbilly."



Marty Davis

"we fed a goat nicotine and it started breaking out."



Jason Navratil

"My brother sprayed me with lighter fluid and threw a match at me while I was in my pirate costume."



Devon Brown

"I was trick-or-treating when I was little, and some guys in a car asked me for directions, but they stole my candy instead."

Photos and copy by Jessica Harvey

~ Attention ~

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SWIM TEAM NEIGHBORS

LACROSSE NANNIES

&

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Community planning meetings scheduled, open to public

The fall 2001 semester is an exciting time for Joliet Junior College. The college continues to celebrate 100 years of educational excellence. At the same time, it is looking forward to the next 100 years. Particularly, the college has initiated a major strategic planning process that will help chart the college's future until 2006.

As one of the strategic planning initiatives, the college has scheduled five community meetings. They are listed below.

- *Morris, Nov. 7, 2001 - Grundy County, Grundy County Administration Center
- *New Lenox, Nov. 27, 2001 - New Lenox Community Center
- *Joliet, Dec. 6, 2001 - JJC Renaissance Center

As seen, these planning meetings are scattered throughout the district. The JJC Community Planning Meetings are open to the public and students are encouraged to attend.

These meetings afford students a great opportunity to voice their issues and concerns to the JJC leaders who will be in attendance at all the meetings.

The purpose of the community meetings is two-fold. First, the college's vision and goals will be shared with the community at large.

Second, the community will be able to communicate the academic programs and student services they deem important to their educational needs and expectations.

Based on this feedback, the college will develop action plans and key performance indicators that will reflect these vital programs and services.

Most importantly, Joliet Junior College will incorporate the input solicited from the community at large in its planning and resultant activities.

For more information, contact Mary Lou D'Allegro, Dean-Office of Institutional Effectiveness, (815) 280-2568, or mdallegro@jic.cc.il.us. Addresses and directions to all the JJC Community Planning Meetings can be found on the JJC Strategic Planning Web page at: http://www.jic.cc.il.us/admin/ie/IE_Community_Plan.htm

Staff member will participate in conference in Puerto Rico

by Molly McKeon

Marilyn Berill, Math Specialist here at Joliet Junior College was invited to participate in this Decembers Technology Tools for Teaching and Learning Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The Technology Tools for Teaching and Learning program, sponsored by The ASPIRA Association gives teachers the opportunity to learn and teach new

technology and multimedia in the classroom." It provides teachers with information and techniques to make tasks like web design, and Internet usage easier and more accessible for the students. The conference will also show teachers how to develop technology-friendly classrooms and how to integrate new technology into the classroom curriculum.

Berill's presentation at the conference will be titled,

"Awesome Worksheets with Microsoft Office" and will demonstrate step-by-step how-to design classroom aids including handouts, worksheets, overheads, multimedia presentations, and student projects using Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Internet Explorer.

In addition, the conference makes it possible for teachers all

"Coming together and sharing ideas with each other...we definitely all relate."

-Marilyn Berill

over the country to come together and share different ways of learning and teaching with one another. It also addresses problems that teachers may have with a certain aspect of teaching. "It's nice to know JJC teachers aren't the only ones with certain problems and situations," said Berill. "Coming together and sharing ideas with each other...we definitely all relate."

Blazer wants to wish everyone a Happy Halloween



Black Student Union: The BSU will host the 2001 Homecoming dance, "A Night to Remember," on Sat. Nov. 3. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. For further information, contact Chris Parker at 280-2443.

Deer Crossings: Everyone driving on campus, please beware of deer crossings with time change and dusk. It is mating season, so drive safe and be alert.

Fine Arts Departments: The Fine Arts Department will present a recital by the music students on Wed. Oct. 31 at 11 a.m. in the Theatre. The Chad Collofello and Bob Jones exhibit in the Laura A. Sprague Gallery will run through Nov. 2. The JJC Jewelry class will host a sale in the cafeteria on the Main Campus on Nov. 14 and 15. On Nov. 14 at 11 a.m., the Simpson College Madrigal Singers will perform in the Fine Arts Theatre.

Marchetti will also be presented on Nov. 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 11 at 2:30 p.m. Ticket prices for this event are \$5 for the public and \$4 for senior citizens, with discounts for students, children through eighth grade and JJC staff. Audience members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to the production where they may be exchanged for items at the concession table. All food contributions will be donated to area shelters. For tickets, call 280-2720.

Latinos Unidos Service Project: This year, the club has chosen to support an educational program serving low-income school children, ranging in ages from 4 years to 16 years old, in Tablada de Lurin, Peru. Donations will be

accepted through Nov. 16 in D-1010 or J-1011. The following items are needed: black pants, black skirts (below the knee), white polo shirts, backpacks, pencils and pens, markers, calculators and notebooks.

Office of Student Services and Activities: The much anticipated Music Video Bingo will be held on Nov. 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the Bridge. It will include nonstop music, games, fun and a giant video wall game that lasts two hours. The Student Leadership Series on diversity will take place in Nov. 6 from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Phi Theta Kappa: There is a general meeting scheduled on Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. in the middle of the Bridge.

Student Alliance: Every Thursday at 3 p.m. at the north end of the Bridge on the Main Campus, the JJC Student Alliance holds their meetings. Any student is encouraged to come to the meetings to voice his or her concerns.

V-DAY: On Nov. 1. From noon to 1 p.m. in room J-0006, the Fine Arts Department, OSSA and the Women's College will present Dr. Roya Falahi in a lecture on global violence against women. V-day is a global movement to stop violence against females. It is also a day-on or around Valentine's Day, for which annual theatrical and artistic events are produced around the world to raise money and to transform consciousness. For more information about the JJC production of these monologues, contact Nicki Blowers at extension 2200, Anissa Jones at extension 2755 or Dr. Falahi at 2386 or 2626.

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Local spooky events on Halloween CHICAGO'S FAVORITE HAUNTINGS

by Amanda Hochevar

For some, the adrenaline rush of haunted houses or scary ghost stories is their ideal way to spend Halloween.

For others, dressing up in unique costumes and eating candy with friends is another way of having fun.

Don't worry, there are still plenty of things to do around town this year on Halloween! Here are some places to visit to make your Halloween spook-tacular!

Bolingbrook is having a Halloween Haunted House, at Bolingbrook Park District Recreation and Aquatic Complex located at 200 S. Lindsey Lane. It is open to children 10 years and older. Admission costs \$5 and ghosts and goblins are waiting to add some fright this Halloween night! It will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on October 31. There are plenty of Halloween activities and don't forget to wear your Halloween costume!

Indoor pumpkin playground, and magic show open to children of all ages admission \$4 per child. For more information call (630) 739-1300.

Crest Hill "Ghosts By The Pool" organized by the Chaney-Monge Parent Athletic Association to benefit the school's sports and band programs will be held at The

Fields located at 1850 Caton Farm Road in Crest Hill. Call (815) 744-7234 for more information. Admission costs \$12. Hours of operation are from 6:30-9:30 p.m. on Oct. 31.

Frankfort Area Jaycees Haunted House is at the Frankfort Square Park District back building located at 7540 W. Bracmar Lane in Frankfort. This will be open 7-9 p.m. on Oct. 31. The cost is \$4, per person for all ages. This Haunted House is complete with a maze, scenes, and monsters. Call (815) 739-1300 for more information.

In Joliet there will be the Jaycees Haunted House of Terror, at Jefferson Square Mall on Jefferson St. (815) 693-8300. It will be open 7-11 p.m. on Oct. 31. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under. Special Group Rates are available. Contact Kathy Bresnahan at (815) 545-8658 for more information. This haunted house includes more than 11,000 square-feet of haunted rooms, mazes, goblins, surprises and scares.

Refreshments will be sold and proceeds will be split between several local charities, including the Joliet DARE Program and also a National Disaster Relief Fund to aid those affected by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

by Geoff Scofield

About this time every year people start talking about ghosts, goblins and monsters. There are people who like to visit some so-called haunted cemeteries. The two most well known haunted cemeteries in the area are Bachelor's Grove in Midlothian and Resurrection Cemetery, home to Resurrection Mary.

Bachelor's Grove is an old cemetery that was abandoned in 1850. It gets its name from the bachelors who died and were buried there. There have been many reports of orbs and ghosts wandering around the cemetery.

For example, a horse and buggy with a man sitting inside wanders the cemetery. This is a ghost of a man who died in a nearby lake after his horse ran into the lake because it was bitten by a snake.

There is another report of a ghost of a woman wandering around with a child in her arms. Some have said the woman is looking for her husband. Bachelor's Grove is located in Midlothian but those who plan on visiting Bachelor's Grove Cemetery should be warned that it is private property and violators will be prosecuted.

Resurrection Mary is a ghost that wanders about Archer Avenue

between Willowbrook and Resurrection Cemetery in Bridgeport.

Mary, as reported, was hit by a drunk driver and died on impact while walking down Archer Avenue. There have been reports of a ghost of a young woman in a white dress asking for a ride home.

There has been one report of a gentleman who picked her up and once they got to the cemetery she vanished. That report was only 30 years ago. As a warning to any one driving down Archer Avenue in Bridgeport, if you see a young woman walking down the highway, could be our good friend Mary.



Dr. Alan Hardersen, vice president of student services, presents a check for \$2,340.40 to Judith Thontlin of the American Red Cross on Tuesday Oct. 23. The money was raised by the Office of Student Services and Activities and the Manufacturing Club for victims of the Sept. 11 attack.

photo by Jessica Harvey

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Violence at concerts: How far will you go to see a concert?

by Danna Billings

Drunkness, rowdiness, sex, drugs, and violence and even death are becoming common at today's concerts.

The phenomena of violent concerts seemed to take off in the late '90s. The times of peaceful concerts are gone. These days concerts are demilitarized zones where participants unleash aggression towards each other because they know the law probably will not be enforced.

One of the earliest publicized outbreaks was during a Summer Jam in 1994. The LA Youth website stated that 10 men got past security and ran backstage, attacking whoever came their way.

This incident was quickly resolved, but in the next year there were several reports of incidents at concerts, some resulting in the early lives of fans.

According to MTV, in 1999, about 40 people were arrested during a weekend concert series of the Dave Matthews Band in Hartford, Conn., as violence broke out between officers, audience members and tailgaters.

The "Hartford Courant" reported the riots involved more than a dozen cars being overturned and set on fire. The crowd also

torched debris, lumber, cardboard boxes and hurled glass at the police.

On the second day of the concert series, audience members pulled police officers with rocks and bottles. Officers responded by firing rubber bullets, tear gas and smoking grenades and arrested nearly 200 people.

In 2000, eight people died during a Pearl Jam show in Denmark, despite the band's urging to calm down. This year on July 26, a 16-year-old boy was stabbed during a Blink 182 concert.

Perhaps the real target of media scrutiny was the 1999 Woodstock Festival. It has since been called the "poster child of concerts that reflect the dark side of society."

The three-day event was held in Rome, N.Y., and featured a wide range of 30 performers in honor of the thirtieth anniversary of the original Woodstock in 1969.

Sadly, the violence provided a sharp contrast with the theme of peace and love that characterized Woodstock '69.

The riots and violence reached its climax on the last evening when the Red Hot Chili Peppers closed out the festival with a two-hour set. They ironically closed with a Jimi Hendrix tribute, playing his song

"FIRE" while concert-goers were setting fires throughout the audience.

The festival also displayed violence towards females. There were five girls dragged into the mosh pit, stripped and sexually assaulted. There was also a 15-year-old girl that was dragged into a tent and raped. Despite people hearing her screaming, no one came to her rescue. Numerous reports were made of girls being groped, fondled and stripped of their clothing were also made.

Now, the question becomes: how did the concert-goer evolve from the mellow hippie of the 60's as Pennsylvania reporter Chris Bandurski said, the "frustrated, violent, burning-crap-at-the-show type of today?"

Many conclusions have been made in regards to this question.

One explanation is that the attitudes of the musicians often verge on violence.

For example, lead singer of the Sex Pistols, Johnny Rotten, became famous for spitting and cursing at the audience. In turn, the fans would throw empty bottles and glasses at the band. The aggression of bands projected into the audience created a violent atmosphere.

In 1991, rock and roll was

studied as a cultural practice. It was noted a dual role as a sound system for the listeners and as a practice in which performers and listeners espouse and engage in particular social behaviors.

Alan Cox, a Pittsburgh DJ notes, "Today the connection to musicians may be the same, but the message is vastly different. Whereas '60s music had a message, today it simply seems to be entertainment."

In December 1999, John Taylor, a college professor, did a paper outlining social practices and mediational means in today's rock concerts.

According to his research, the violent atmosphere manifested itself in the pogo. The pogo was a dance at concerts that asserted aggression.

Crowd surfing, stage diving and mosh pits are all forms in which concert-goers display aggression. These are all deliberately injurious.

It has been observed through Taylor's numerous studies that there is a direct relationship between music and youth behavior.

On LA Youth, Ani Yaponidzhyan has a completely different explanation. She believes that sometimes it is the security or police that cause trouble.

For instance, at Woodstock, security was blamed for not controlling audience members earlier as well as neglecting to come to the aid of the women attendees.

Cox had an insightful point when he said, "As more and more behavior becomes acceptable, it becomes harder to rebel, and so behavior becomes more extreme and random."

This brings up another observation about the violence displayed at recent concerts. It is that the violence is merely unpredictable and indiscernible.

For instance, at a Warped Tour in Denver one journalist described the crowd as a "combination of Mardi Gras and Demolition Derby, thick-necked fans left in a state of confusion as they pondered whether to stop throwing elbows long enough to gawk at all the flesh."

Whether it is premeditated or simply an unpredictable act of adrenaline, violence is making its way from the hallways of high schools and the stools at the bars to the public eye at concerts.

In the end, there may not be any real solutions to this problem short of canceling all concerts and going to the days when all the public had was the radio and a few CD's.

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Music community donates time, money to Sept. 11 fund

By Lisa Frieri

The tragedy of Sept. 11 has affected everyone, including the music community. The king of pop music, Michael Jackson, has put together an all-star line-up for his benefit single, "What More Can I Give." Destiny's Child, Justin Timberlake of N'Sync, Nick Carter of Backstreet Boys and Britney Spears have already signed on.

This is not the first time

Jackson has helped people in a time of need. In 1985, he co-wrote and produced "We Are the World" to help the poor and the famine in Ethiopia.

"I believe in my heart that the music community will come together as one and rally to the aid of thousands of innocent victims," Jackson said in a recent VH1 interview. "There is a tremendous need for relief dollars right now and through this effort, each one

of us can play an immediate role in helping comfort so many people."

In another effort to raise money, several artists collaborated together to remake the Marvin Gaye classic "What's Going On", which is going to be released for National Aids Day, Dec. 1. Part of the proceeds will go to the "September 11 fund."

The song includes such pop stars as Britney Spears, N'Sync,

Bono of U2, Darren Hayes of Savage Garden, Nelly Furtado, Alicia Keyes and others.

Whitney Houston's rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner" is also being re-released with all the proceeds to benefit the victims of the terrorist attacks.

Students can also help in the effort by providing monetary donations to ClearChannel.com, or by donating blood at the local Red Cross.



Blazer reviewers take a listen at Beautiful Creatures; The Strokes; Macy Gray; Afroman

CD Ratings

**** Skip class and go buy it

*** Buy it at later date

** Find someone who has it and copy it

* Go spend your money on something else



The Strokes *Is This It?*

by Matt Packard

Welcome to a revolution. I hope while riding on a colossal wave of hype that has rolled from their NYC subway over the high schools of the Midwest and into the Southern California underground, the Strokes have finally released a full-length album. Cleverly, it is titled, "Is This It?" That kind of self-deprecation is amusing, though it is not likely that it will be anyone's reaction to this refreshing and exciting debut.

Songs such as "Trying Your Luck" and the title track are slightly more polished than one might have expected. Yet, you can still hear a bit of the old D.I.Y. passion bursting through the energetic songs. The lyrics are equally as passionate and are very personal. At times, they are so personal that their relevance is often vague and they become difficult to relate to.

The music is so involving and intense that you might catch yourself bending the meanings in order to relate the song to your life. The Strokes are your typical over-privileged brats that

decided to be punks anyway.

This doesn't mean that they lack interest, passion, or hunger. It actually makes for an even more interesting listen as you consider the source of the music. They are two parts everything you miss about great music and one part something you've never heard before. Some of the kids of the "TRL" generation might finally find a reason to duck under the clouds and find something special.



Macy Gray *The ID*

*** 1/2
by Matt Packard

Macy Gray has provoked many a rolled eye. It seems that for every person, who is shaking a head, there is another person bobbing one. You are free to dislike her and that voice that is often compared to Duffy Duck. She's fun to make fun of. She's even more fun to get into. Her sounds are some of the best coming out of the neo-soul (or Nu Soul) movement. "The ID" is a really interesting title, coming from a woman who comes off as both a genius and a psychopath. "Gimme All Your Lovin' of I Will Kill You" is a perfect

demonstration of her candor, her humor, and her wackiness.

She can also be deeply moving and a fine storyteller, as she is on "Don't Come Around." Macy separates herself from a lot of the modern soulsters by writing songs ABOUT something. She writes stories about love, life, and sex. She tells them in her unique way over wonderfully natural music. She can be funny, smart, crazy, and sexy all at once, or all separately. She hasn't changed her style too much after her surprising debut, but she still manages to evolve.

If you've enjoyed her work thus far, you will likely enjoy her second step in what could be a prosperous career on many levels. Quirkiness has rarely been so welcome.



Beautiful Creatures *Beautiful Creatures*

By Jason Baloun

Beautiful Creatures self-entitled CD is straightforward rock album. If appears that they are trying to fill the void created a little under a decade ago when Al Rose, lead singer of Guns N'

Roses, decided to become a hermit. With Joe Leste on vocals and DJ Ashba on lead guitar, they fill that void quite nicely. Heavy vocals and fast paced riffs wind their webs around you. Beautiful Creatures is finishing up their tour on the side stage of Ozzfest 2001. This CD shows that they deserved their spot. As a side note, Beautiful Creatures spent over an hour singing autographs and passing out free demos and guitar pics after their set at the Tweeter Center. They could also be seen walking through the crowd and enjoying some of the marriage acts from the lawn. It's nice to see a band that appreciates its fans. Beautiful Creatures will be opening up for Tancric and Oleander during the Rolling Rock Festival Tour. They are a nice addition to any CD collection.



Afroman *The Good Times*

** 1/2
by Matt Packard

Many considered Afroman's blinding smash hit "Because I Got High" to be a certain kiss of death. The packaging of his debut album would support these assumptions. It is deco-

rated as if it is expected to disappear very shortly and prominently features the one gigantic hit that he has to his credit. There hasn't been a bigger novelty hit this year which normally lands you a two-minute segment on a VH1 special five years after you fall from Billboard grace. Afroman's hit was different. The reason for its popularity was rather obvious, as with most novelty hits. It was actually a good song. He has a surprisingly distinctive voice and good imagination.

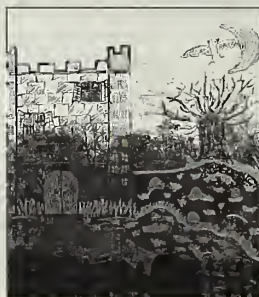
These traits are put to good use throughout "The Good Times." No one else is doing what he is doing. He is employing a smooth, nostalgic R&B sound and just having fun with it. The mood never changes and that's a good thing.

Since nobody is ever going to take Afroman seriously (not that he would want it any other way) doing anything other than what he already knows works would defeat the purpose. No one will buy "The Good Times" to be enlightened. They will get just what they paid for. This album isn't great by any means but it is a good time.

Read CD reviews by Matt Packard and others in every issue of the Blazer.

Halloween window art contest

Below are entries in the JJC Halloween window art contest. The works of art can be seen on the windows on the bridge



ROSCOPES

by Matt Packard

Scorpio: Your relationship with your girlfriend will grow rapidly, as will your little debt problem.

Sagittarius: Life will begin to resemble a fairy tale. You would be the beast.

Capricorn: You're not one to cry over spilled milk, but 700 gallons all over your car will come as a shock.

Aquarius: From my Philosophy 101 notes: "Act upon a maxim which involves its own universal validity." I suppose the magazine will do.

Pisces: You'll make quite an impression on the office. It will be in the shape of your SUV.

Aries: Your boyfriend will treat you to an evening of surprises and romance. Just without all that stupid romance.

Taurus: You will continue to climb the corporate ladder. You will continue to wash the corporate win-

dows. Then, you might drink some beer on the roof.

Gemini: Do not take "No." for an answer. But, you might want to take "I'm calling the police" for an answer.

Cancer: You will finish your impressive term paper: "The Bona Fide Ethics of Authenticity and their Relation to Contemporary Modernism and Conceptual Thought."

Leo: You will impress at a job interview. Your entrance music and pyrotechnics will set you apart.

Virgo: You'll want to take I-55 South to the 3rd exit. Hang a left at the Shoney's and follow that road about 7 miles. Pisces will be in the 4th building on the right. Just come on up.

Libra: Remember that all that glitters is not gold, especially in the dance clubs where all that glitters is usually trash.

by Matt Sheehan

The world of film can be a world of shadows, enveloped by a place of darkness and despair.

Tim Burton, the master of creating these mysterious places, set the trend in motion with such hit films as *Batman*, *Edward Scissorhands*, and *Sleepy Hollow*.

These movies give us a sense of being taken to a world straight out of a graphic novel (or comic book, if you please).

From *Hell* gives us just that, with one small exception—Burton had nothing to do with it.

Yes, many aspects of the film, from Johnny Depp to the dark yet sensuous score, are Burton's trademark, but the Hughes' Brothers, makers of the critically-acclaimed *Menace II Society*, revive the story of Jack the Ripper, the London serial killer who went on a murder spree, killing five prostitutes in London's Whitechapel district, and make it their own.

Johnny Depp portrays real-life Scotland Yard Inspector Fred Abberline, the man assigned to hunt down Jack the Ripper. He claims to see visions of the next victims of Jack the Ripper while smoking opium.

His superiors find this preposterous but effective nonetheless if he can catch Jack the Ripper. Robbie Coltrane plays Abberline's trusted partner Sgt. Peter Godley.

They are the ones who have to observe the gruesome nature of the

MOVIE REVIEW

FROM HELL

mutilations. Not even the coroner can keep dinner down.

After the first killing, they start asking questions to the 1888 hookers, lead by Mary Kelly, portrayed by Heather Graham. Mary Kelly is the only one in this circle of whores who feels that they can trust the police.

taking place. Suddenly, those appearing to be with Abberline just might be against him (or at least try to steer him in the opposite direction).

With the exception of (not to give anything away) who was put away for the Jack the Ripper killings (the killer was never found) and the "outcome" of Abberline and Mary Kelly, much of the film is fact-based.

Some facts featured are how the women were murdered, where they were found, who was assigned to the case, and even right down to the alleged conspiracy to cover up Prince Edward's sickness.

Jack the Ripper has been called "the world's first tabloid star," due to the press coverage he received all over.

I believe he (or she) is an extraordinary subject that not only captures my curiosity but the minds of writers, filmmakers, and law enforcement officials alike.

The Hughes' Brothers do a brilliant job capturing the essence of the horror that this human ravaged in London. Robbie Coltrane gives the most awesome performance of all the actors in this film as Abberline's right-hand man.

Ian Holm is somewhat dazzling, despite his lines given in a kind of monotone voice.

Coltrane steals the show away from Depp and Graham. He, along with the score, should be nominated for an Academy Award, among other technical and thespian merits.

Of course, the others don't and those are the ones who have their throats slit and other things taken from them (besides their lives).

Abberline and Godley decipher that Jack the Ripper needs to know a lot about human anatomy, and, therefore, could be a surgeon.

They begin ask Sir William Gull (Ian Holm), the top surgeon in all of Britain and the physician to the Royal Family.

They question him for reference first, then begin to suspect that he is part of this conspiracy to cover the alleged syphilis-infected heir to the throne, Prince Edward, a supposed fact was allegedly known by the prostitutes.

This is why the killings are



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Weather balloon launched from JJC

by Lisa Widlowski

Friday Oct. 12, three students, one instructor, and the technology department were behind a weather balloon launch at Joliet Junior College.

According to John Koeple of the technology department, the building of this balloon took most of spring semester. This was due to the time involved in ordering and waiting for parts to come in.

At 9 a.m. on that Friday, Matt Jenner, one of the main balloon builders released the weather balloon.

The balloon rose up to 4500 feet and journeyed 6.38 miles in the course of 23 minutes. It landed in a wooded area of Channahon.

The part of the balloon that

contained the tracking device and other important parts was called the "payload."

This payload was never found. Koeple described finding the payload "like having several haystacks with a needle in one of them."

The tracker only helped find the one haystack the needle was in. The payload landed in a tree. They found the relative area where it landed but not the exact tree it was in.

As Koeple plans the building and launching of subsequent weather balloons, he hopes to actually find the payload.

Also, as more balloons are being built, Koeple hopes to involve the natural science department, particularly the geography classes.

This weather balloon project will probably be very useful in recording data about our atmosphere.

In fact, Koeple is trying to start a new class called Atmospheric Exploration. If approved, it will involve both the electronic engineering and natural sciences departments.

That class would cover both the building of the balloon and the interpretation of the data collected.

Until then, anyone can get involved in these projects. A meeting will be held in early November to discuss the building of the next balloon.

This one is planned to be launched before Thanksgiving. Look for flyers and announcements if interested.

'Vagina Monologues'

by Jessica Harvey

When people hear the word vagina it tends to make them uneasy. Maybe it's because people are taught that it's a personal thing not to be talked about, but maybe it's more than that.

The Women's College, along with the Office of Student Services and Activities and the Fine Arts department, will be putting on a production of the "Vagina Monologues" on Feb. 15. Anissa Jones, director of the OSSA, hopes that bringing the Vagina Monologues to JJC will "bring about a greater awareness about violence towards women."

The Vagina Monologues is based upon stories of hundreds of women who were interviewed by



Anissa Jones, director of the OSSA introduces Dr. Roya Falahi to speak on the upcoming performance of Vagina Monologues

photo by Jessica Harvey

the play's author, Eve Ensler. The play deals with issues such as women and their sexuality, violence against women, empowerment, healing, and understanding. "The material is sensitive, but funny," says Jones. "Hopefully this play will be used as an outlet to mobilize people to stop violence

"People need to realize that violence against women affects everybody. Not only does it affect the abused women, but it also affects the people who love them."
-Anissa Jones

against women."

Auditions for the, "Vagina Monologues" will be held at the beginning of January, in the spring semester. Both student and faculty may audition.

It will be an all female cast, however male students, and faculty members are welcome to help behind the scenes.

In preparation for the play, a series of lectures will take place until the day of the production. Dr. Roya Falahi will be giving a lecture about global violence against women on Nov. 1, at noon in room J006.

There will be more events, such as fundraisers, closer to the performance of the Vagina Monologues. Jones wants people to be aware of the fact that violence against women is a global issue. It is not something that just happens to the girl next door.

According to a 2000 UN Report on the Commission on the Status of Women, at least one in three women and girls has been beaten or sexually abused in her lifetime.

Jones also wants people to know that this is an important issue, not only for women but for men as well.

"People need to realize that violence against women affects everybody," says Jones. "Not only does it affect the abused women, but it also affects the people who love them."

If you would like to get involved with activities pertaining to the "Vagina Monologues" please call Anissa Jones at 280-2755, for more information.

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New club aims to unite people in its patriotic cause

by Tim Daly

Some might be surprised to learn that Joliet Junior College's newest club, the American Freedom Organization, was formed before the terrorist attacks on Sep. 11 of this year. With the outpouring of nationalism being felt across campus, the group's message could not have come at a better time.

"We want our members to combat ignorance and apathy," says club officer Patrick Hannigan.

"We were tired of sitting down, we wanted people to rise up as one to bring about political action and social responsibility," said Hannigan. Hannigan and club co-founder Nick Shelton have been busy getting the clubs message to students.

"We were tired of sitting down, we wanted people to rise up as one to bring about political action and social responsibility."

-Patrick Hannigan,
AFO club officer

"We are already distributing information, getting people involved with the student alliance, and community activism," says Hannigan. As the club's mission statement makes clear, the AFO is an organization whose main purpose is to unite people.* For more information, e-mail the club at afoha@yahoo.com for more information.



Derrick Trumbly and Simone Sulver in a scene from the Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department Production of *MACBETH*, November 8-10 and 16-17 at 8:00 p.m. and November 11 at 2:30 p.m. Call the ticket office at 815-280-2200 for ticket prices and reservations.

photo courtesy of the fine arts department

Soccer club varsity sport in fall 2002

by Stephen Higgins

The Soccer club is beginning its seventh year at Joliet Junior College. The club was initiated with the intent of raising support for soccer at JJC in order to establish an official team.

"In order to become a sport, we had to first charter a club," said Mr. Cristobal Trillo the faculty advisor. The initial goal has been achieved, for a soccer team will be started next spring. Although there will be separate male and female teams next year, the benefit of having a club is that it is open to all students. Currently the club is co-ed, ethnically diverse, and its enrollment is not based upon players' ability, as a team would be.

Games are open to the public, but due to the fact that there are few soccer clubs in the area, games are sporadic and there isn't a printed game schedule. If interested in the soccer club, contact Cristobal Trillo at trillo@jjc.cc.il.us or by phone at 280-2465.

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Wolves thrash North Dakota, set up conference championship game

by Tim Daly

Give the Joliet Junior College football team credit, they overcame injuries to key players, an 11-hour bus ride, and the bitter cold to pick up their eighth win of the season. On October 27, the Wolves defeated North Dakota State Community College 31-14.

"It was tough, mentally, getting over the trip and the long drive," said sophomore tight end Adam Alt. "Coaches made sure there were lots of stops on the trip... lots of breaks."

Sophomore quarterback T.J. Grisel has picked up where injured quarterback Kevin Boyd left off this season by completing 14 of 24 passes against a tough North action at Joliet Memorial Stadium. Dakota secondary for a total of 173.

"Grisel's a winner, he did it last year and he's doing it this year too," said assistant coach Tom Minnick. Also impressive for the Wolves was sophomore tailback Craig Duppong. Duppong surpassed the 1,000-yard rushing mark against North Dakota by gaining 145 yards rushing on 22 carries. Duppong has tallied 11 touchdown runs this season, and has had 100 yard games six times

this year.

The win against North Dakota sets up a conference championship game against Harper this Saturday at Joliet Memorial Stadium. Harper comes into the game with an impressive 6-1 conference record, with their only loss coming at the hands of JJC (8-1, 6-1 in conference play) back in September. JJC came from behind to hand Harper a heartbreaking 48-45 loss.



Photo courtesy of the Athletic Department

Lady Wolves number one in nation

by Tim Daly

When you're the best at what you do, it can be easy to become complacent. Not the case with Joliet Junior College's volleyball team. The Lady Wolves, who sit atop the Division III national rankings, are anxious to continue their run at a national championship.

"It's hard to have the layoff (between our last game and the regionals), the girls don't like shifting their gears like this, were hungry," said Coach Kim McKay.

Coach Kim McKay, who was named their conference Coach of the Year, is not about to let up.

"At this point in the season, no one wants a wake up call. You lose at this point and you go home."

The Lady Wolves ended their home season by crushing Kankakee Community College 30-18, 30-27, 30-17 at Wills.

Gymnasium. Joliet Junior College graduate Carrie Hickok led the charge with 17 kills and 12 digs.

"The players were focused," said McKay.

The Lady Wolves put the finishing touches on their regular season by finishing off Moraine Valley Community College 30-23, 30-23, 23-30, 30-18. Again, Hickok was on fire with a team leading 16 kills. Teammate and Co-captain Crystal Hoinacki was right behind Hickok with 15 kills.

McKay's team is the No. 1 seed in their regional tournament Friday and Saturday, Nov. 2-3, at the College of Lake County in Grayslake. JJC will face the winner of the Harper/DuPage match Nov. 2 at noon. The winner of the regional championship, Saturday Nov. 3 at 12:30 p.m., will advance to the NJCAA Division III National Tournament Nov. 9-10 at the National Volleyball Center in Rochester, Minnesota.

JJC Rugby topples Tornadoes

by Tim Daly

JJC's rugby club defeated the Twin City Tornadoes 27-5 last weekend, the victory is the club's third straight.

"I'm very proud of the boys, what is happening with them is great," said club advisor Dr. Todd Ellingson.

Although JJC won the match, their play was sloppy at times. The Wolves backline was held scoreless for most of the first half by the Tornadoes. Heavy penalties and several dropped balls kept the Wolves from running the tables early.

"We kept shooting ourselves in the foot... but I suppose it's a good thing when you can get a win when you're not playing well."

Scoring for the Wolves was led by bulky arts student Vincent Butti, Bryson Burnside, and Steven Daly.

The victory helped the



Wolves defender making a tackle against the Twin Cities Tornadoes

Photo courtesy of Kaye Butz

Wolves to end their season on a high note and to keep them focused on their Spring matches.

"We scheduled some matches for this spring, last spring we didn't get to play much so that will be fun," said team vice-president Nick Fischer.

Athletes of the Issue

Ben Henderson
Football



The six-foot tall freshman linebacker has been a force on the outside for the Wolves. The lightning quick Henderson has one interception returned for two nationally ranked Wolves.

Lauren Hume
Volleyball



The Coal City High School graduate is a middle hitter on the number one ranked Lady Wolves volleyball team. Hume was named honorable mention All-Conference team this season.

Mitchell Marshall
Football



The Bolingbrook High School graduate is a freshman for the 8-1 Wolves this season. Marshall is in a three way tie for second place in the team race for the sack title with four this season.

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Students take honors at convention

by Katie Saieg

Lisa Widlowski and Becky McCorkhill, two JJC Honor Students, received honorable mention for their presentation in the West Lakes Conference of Geographers that was held on Main Campus, Oct. 11-13.

John Schroeder, their former teacher for the honors section of Geography 111, explained that, "They found that the climate border separating areas with below-freezing average winter temperatures from areas that do not have winter months averaging below 32 degrees, really lies farther south in Illinois than was believed."

This basically means that southern Illinois is colder than most of the textbooks show and the boundary separating the two climate types is farther south.

Widlowski and McCorkhill were both freshman when they assembled their presentation. Their competitors were older, more experienced students, with intended geography majors. Although Widlowski and McCorkhill aren't, they are both interested in the weather. McCorkhill says that competing



Lisa Widlowski and Becky McCorkhill, two JJC Honor Students, received honorable mention for their presentation in the West Lakes Conference of Geographers.

Photo by Kaye Butz

with the more experienced students "was a different kind of feeling." She said she was "nervous being up against graduates."

Widlowski says that she wasn't nervous before hand because she didn't expect to win, but it was "nerve-racking" when they actually gave their presentation.

"What could we tell them

(professionals in the field) that they didn't already know?" said Widlowski.

Well, not only did the two honors students write "an interesting paper" according to Schroeder, but they also proved that the boundary lines are wrong. This brought to the audience's attention that the author of one of

the textbooks used as a source in their presentation was also wrong.

Widlowski and McCorkhill explained that the textbook author drew his lines over a more generalized area and their project was more specific making their lines more accurate.

Both students said that they probably wouldn't have done the presentation had Mr. Schroeder not encouraged them to do so. Both said that they are glad he encouraged them and that they entered the Geography Conference.

"It was a learning experience for all of us. Before I wouldn't have thought to do something like this. At conventions you're always the one listening. It's thrilling to be the one up there and having people interested in hearing what I know and am talking about," said McCorkhill.

Widlowski added, "We were proud. We didn't expect honorable mention."

McCorkhill said, "I was our first time doing something like this so we were nervous and felt unprepared. It was nice to get honorable mention. It was like 'wow, we can do this.'"

Board of trustees gets a new look

by Danna Billings

As of tomorrow morning the JJC Board of Trustees will have a new look, as three new members take the place of three long-time board members.

Tonight's meeting will be the last for Chairwoman Eleanor McGuan-Boza, David Cryer, a former chairman of the board, and Marilyn Heriko. New board members to be sworn in are Judy DeVriendt, Katherine Mary Johnson and James McFarland, who are all scheduled to serve six-year terms.

McGuan-Boza served on the Board of Trustees in a variety of capacities, but her tenure as a board member ends tonight when new members elected in the spring are sworn in.

As a member of the board for

the past 12 years, McGuan-Boza served in a variety of positions, including secretary, treasurer and vice president and twice as chairwoman, the position she held until Tuesday night when new members of the board were sworn in.

She leaves the board having served under three administrations and having watched the college grow in size and in numbers. Serving two consecutive six-year terms, she has seen the North Campus, the Tech building and the Vet Tech building all constructed.

McGuan-Boza has had the opportunity to set and direct policy for the school, and she says the students have always been first in her mind.

"The students are the most important part of the school," she said. "Without them, no one else would have any reason to be

here."

While she enjoyed her 12 years, she said times occasionally got tough, particularly when the board had to contend with a teachers' strike in the early 1990s. She remembers that time as being particularly difficult for nursing students, who were unable to get semester grades during the work stoppage.

But the strike did not have a long-term effect, she added.

"After the strike, things went back to normal," she recalled.

McGuan-Boza originally ran for the board because she simply wanted to get involved in the school.

She had a petition signed, filed paper work, campaigned and then hoped on Election Day that enough people voted for her. Enough people did that term and

then again six years later for a second term. Her luck ran out last spring when she finished behind McFarland, DeVriendt and Johnson.

But she has remained very passionate about her role on the board, acting in what she always felt was the best interest of the student body.

Serving on the board also provided and excellent way for her to become involved in the college while she set out to earn her associate's degree in Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement, which she received in May of this year.

In addition to the new board members, the board of trustees also includes Susan Block, Richard (Dick) Dystrup, Jeff May, Robert Wunderlich and Student Trustee Elba Vargas.

Sales class practices selling as it donates money to charity

by Carrie Roderick

Michelle Story, instructor at JJC, sponsored a candle-selling drive to raise money for the American Red Cross and to teach her Sales 101 class how to sell a product. The candles are white with red and blue chunks of color in them. The students wrapped the voices in blue cellophane with red, white, and blue ribbon tying them at the top.

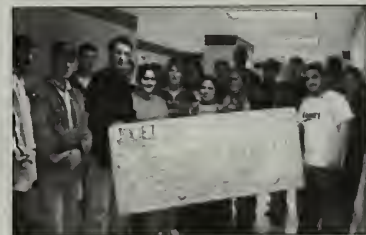
A student in the class came up with the idea. She thought it would be easy to put together, wouldn't cost a lot, and would have a patriotic theme. She got the candles from a candle warehouse in Rockdale owned by a friend.

"The candles are to be burned in the memory of all those who lost their lives on Sept. 11 and I thought it would be a good project for the class to do," said Story.

Each student sold 12 candles asking a minimum donation of \$1.50 per candle. Some students received extra money for the candles in the form of donations for the Sept. 11 fund.

A student in Story's class noted, "It was nice to see how much people were willing to help. I actually ran out of candles, but still received donations from people."

The class plans on raising more than their projected goal of \$364.00.



Michelle Story's Sales 101 Class presents their check to the American Red Cross from funds raised through a candle-selling endeavor.

Photo by Jessica Harvey

Letter to the editor

Reader takes issue with concert column

Sex, drugs, and Rock&Roll. This is not a new phrase, not a new idea.

Rock music has always dealt with the more interesting parts of life. Rowdiness at concerts is not a phenomenon of the 90's.

The Doors, Led Zeppelin, and the Rolling Stones all set the scene for drugs and sometimes violence. Most people have heard about the overly publicized occasion when the Rolling Stones hired the Hell's Angels to work security for their

show. They ended up killing an African-American man, and starting several other fights. Now days music has evolved into an even more negative beast.

The mood and lyrics of mainstream rock and metal has become more aggressive, because that's what sells. Why does anger equal profit? I think the answer lies in the fact that our generation really hasn't had anything to rally for or devote our collective energy towards. We don't have streets

filled with equality marches or anti-Vietnam rallies. We are a generation of Disillusioned Youth, driven by money and power, not peace and love.

Anyone who has been to a Pantera/Slayer show knows what a real mosh pit is all about. My advice to people who want to see these kind of bands, don't want to get "hurt", get a seat. If you know the type of music a certain band plays, you should know what kind of concert it is going to be.

As for WoodStock 99, whenever you have that many people gathered in a relatively undersized space with over priced food and drinks, you kind of have to see that as an equation for danger. Most concerts are absolutely safe when certain precautions are taken.

The people who died at a Pearl Jam concert a few years back died because the promoters sold too many tickets, and there were too many people. Blame the money hungry sharks, not the concert going fools.

cert going fools.

In the politically correct country we live in, where anger and aggression are frowned upon, concert going has become one of out few outlets. It's too much for you to handle, stay home.

I hope your article didn't scare anyone away from going to see the bands they love. Concerts are a wonderful way to tap into some great energy and clear your mind for a few hours.

Jason Baloun

Our View

Education is Power

We at the Blazer feel that a lot of students take their education for granted. Do American students realize how lucky we are to have the opportunity to learn?

Every morning, students across this country debate whether or not to skip their first class for another hour of sleep. Most teachers will tell you that attendance in their classes can be low simply because it's a nice day outside or because it's the end of a week. Getting an education in our country could not

be easier, and because of that it is unappreciated by the people who are receiving it.

There are many important things that we take for granted about our education. To start with, how about the availability of schools? Every state in the United States has major universities and most major cities even have community colleges. Try finding a junior college in Ethiopia, even if the average person could afford to enroll in a school, try finding a cost-effective and reliable

way of getting to class every day. How many Ethiopians wouldn't love to jump into their car, stop at a fast food restaurant, and drive themselves to school every morning?

Another important luxury we enjoy is the affordability of education. If a person can't afford to pay for his schooling then all he or she has to do is visit a financial aide counselor at school and do some paperwork to get the money. If some scholarship funds can't give you the

money, then our government will lend you some. Imagine Ethiopians petitioning their government to lend them some money so they can take a few classes. In our country, anyone who truly wants an education and is willing to work can receive one.

Another thing that we take for granted with our education, as well as in our society in general, is safety. For as tumultuous as our world is, the danger we face in our society pales in comparison to some of the things that people of other nations have to deal with. We don't have cars blowing up every few weeks or shootouts between authorities and rebels as a part of our regular routines. As Americans we enjoy a degree of safety that is the envy of countries around the globe.

Next time you are trying to decide whether to skip class for more sleep think about how lucky American students are to be able to make it to school without armed guards walking the streets or cars blowing up.

Think about how lucky we are to have places we can go for the money to pay for our education, or how easy it is to find a school near us. We have it easy. If somebody wants to go to school then there is usually a way to do it. Start appreciating the opportunities that you have and make sure to wake up for class tomorrow.

Letter Policy

The *Blazer* encourages participation from readers through letters.

Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, email, or by dropping them off at the *Blazer* office at H-1015B.

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Campus police sponsors Gang Awareness Workshops for faculty, staff and students

by Lisa Widowski

Recently the JJC campus police sponsored gang awareness workshops here on campus. Campus police put much effort into these workshops, intended to inform the campus community about gangs.

The purpose of these workshops was to inform the campus community of what gangs do and how they operate, according to Steve Bennet, chief of campus police. These workshops were open to faculty, staff, and students. Approximately thirty people attended these first workshops.

While these workshops were pro-active, there have been signs of gang activity here on campus. Bennet stated that the first sign of gang activity is graffiti. This semester there have been

4 or 5 spots of graffiti scattered around campus. Gangs do this to mark their turf.

These workshops informed its participants about gang signs and language. For example, a gang member may arrange a "rumble" with an opposing gang member in public. The language they use would mean one thing to them, who understand it and mean nothing to an innocent bystander. Safety will always be a top priority on campus. Awareness of gang activities could go a long way in protecting those who do not wish to get involved.

In the unfortunate event that gangs become a more prominent problem on campus, some solutions are being considered. Photo identification may be implemented to identify students from those not enrolled at JJC. Certain behaviors

will be restricted in certain areas and security may be heightened. The main thing right now, and for the future, is to educate the community.

Bennet hopes to start holding similar gang awareness workshops twice a month. He wants to encourage all readers to attend workshops in an effort to recognize gang behavior. He stated the importance of students and staff at Joliet Junior College to act as the eyes and ears around campus.



Office of Student Services and Activities: This month is Stress Relief Month sponsored by Holistic Wellness and Peers Promoting Wellness. Wednesday, Nov. 14 will be Health and Stress Seminar from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in room J-0006 and a free light lunch will be provided. Friday, Nov. 16 is Stress Bingo located on the bridge from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19 is a Student Leadership Series about stress from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. located on the bridge. Tuesday, Nov. 27 is Stress Relief game day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the bridge and there will be refreshments. Think you are a star? You can make your own c.d. on Wednesday, Nov. 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with the One Hit Wonder in the cafeteria.

Fine Arts Department: The Simpson College Madrigal Singers will perform on

News Briefs

Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 11 a.m. in the theatre on the main campus. The annual Winter Jazz Concert will be on Friday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the theatre on the main campus. Special guests include the Joliet West Jazz Band. The concert is open to the public and admission is \$5 for adults; \$4 senior citizens, non-JJC students, JJC faculty and staff, and \$2 JJC students. For more information on joining the jazz band or ticket information contact Jerry Lewis at 280-2232.

Maebeth will also be presented on Nov. 16 and 17 at 8 p.m. Ticket prices for this event are \$5 for the public and \$4 for senior citizens with discounts for students, children through eighth grade and JJC staff. Audience members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to the production where they may be exchanged for items at the concession table. All food contributions will be donated to area shelters. For tickets, call 280-2200.

Handcrafted Jewelry Holiday Sale: The JJC Metalsmithing class will be exhibiting and selling their jewelry on Wednesday, Nov. 14 and Thurs. Nov. 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Student Alliance: Meetings are held every Thursday, at 3 p.m. at the north end of the bridge on the main campus. Any student is encouraged to come to the meetings to voice his or her concerns.

Phi Theta Kappa: There is a general meeting scheduled on Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. in the middle of the bridge.

Deer Crossings: Everyone driving on campus needs to beware of deer crossings with the time change and dusk. It is mating season, so drive safe and be alert.

Lecture Series: "The Status of HIV/AIDS in Africa" lecture by Professor Juel Brown who is a Fulbright scholar from Zimbabwe will be Wednesday, Nov. 14 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. in room D-2001.

Chess Club: The JJC Chess club is hosting the Illinois class chess championships. Students can apply for a free entry fee and membership which is a \$100 value. This will be held on Nov. 24 and 25 in the formal dining room located in J-Building.

Cookie Baking Contest: Entries will be accepted from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Dec. 1 for the Winter festival. The judging begins at 2:30 p.m., and winners will be announced at 3:30 p.m. Call Kim Frauli at ext. 2549 for more information.

Rabbi Hershtman Community Service Award given: The Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry recently awarded JJC President J.D. Ross with the distinguished Rabbi Hershtman Community Service Award for his outstanding services to the community. The award was presented at the Chamber's Annual Dinner.

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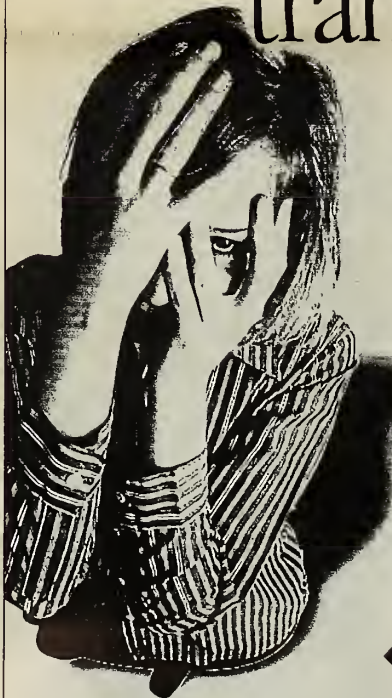
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Community relations sponsors winter fun festival

by Kristin Henschel

With the upcoming Christmas season, Joliet Junior College is kicking off a brand new campus event, the Winter Festival. The idea behind it is to have something that interests everyone, and at the same time bring people to the campus. We want to be able to show our community all the great things JJC has to offer. The Winter Festival will be held on Saturday December 1st from 10am to 5pm.

JJC's Community Relations Office is currently seeking volun-

teers to help out.

Help is needed in a variety of areas. All help is greatly appreciated.

Being apart of the Cookie Baking Contest includes having to collect the entries for the contest. The entries will be collected in the cafeteria.

If you're feeling more on the decorative side you could volunteer your services for the Early Childhood Center Open House. This involves overseeing and helping the children with their

crafts. The volunteers will also help assist the Director of Early Childhood Center during the course of the open house.

There is also the Gingerbread Men booth. This is where you can help children decorate their Gingerbread Men. One of the volunteers will be in charge of collecting the money.

What would a Winter Festival be without the main man himself?? A volunteer to be Santa Claus is needed. To be Santa you MUST be an employee of JJC and dress

up in the full Santa decor. Being Santa includes hearing wishes from the children and posing with them for pictures.

Helpers for Santa are also needed. One helper will assist the children while they wait to Santa and also help Santa make his exit at the end of a shift. Other helpers will take the pictures of Santa with the children and collect the small fee.

Another area that needs volunteers is the Gingerbread House Auction. This is a silent auction that will auction off the culinary art student's gingerbread houses.

Volunteers to supervise are needed. There will be a variety of culinary treats in the cafeteria to be sold. The volunteers will be responsible for selling the culinary art items.

Ticket handlers are also needed. The volunteers for this area will distribute tickets for the Fun Fair games and also collect donations.

The Festival would also like volunteers to be Carriage Ride Attendants. This includes selling the tickets and helping the people get on and off the carriage in an orderly fashion.

If you do not want to commit yourself to one area then being a

Last Minute Emergency Runner would be perfect for you. To volunteer for this you must have a car and will run any errands that happen to arise during the course of the day.

JJC employees are needed as volunteers to sit at the JJC information table. This means greeting guests, providing them with an event booklet, answering any event questions and giving general JJC information and materials.

Not only are volunteers needed for the day of the Winter Festivals, but also to plan out games. If this interest you then you can join the Fun Fair Games for Kids Planning Committee. The committee will help the CRO staff think of ideas and create games that will be used during the Winter Festival. Committee members get first choice on signing up for the games and shifts of their choice.

Volunteers for most of the activities will be asked to work for about two hours a shift. Choose what activity/activities interest you the most, and don't forget to take time and enjoy the event for yourself.

For more information contact Kim Nichols Frauli at (815) 280-2549.

Question of the Issue:

What are you thankful for?



Susanne Sichta

"I'm thankful for my mom because she has always been there for me."



Stephen Higgins

"I'm thankful that I am able to attend a wonderful institution of learning like Joliet Junior College."



Kristin Henschel

"I am thankful that Da Bears are Superbowl bound, and that they have a chance to be the reigning champs like in '86 when President Dikta was in office."



Molly McKeon

"I'm thankful for understanding friends."



Sergio Martinez

"I'm thankful to be alive another day."



Jen Vota

"I'm thankful for my family."



Nicole Sivak

"I'm thankful that I got a better job."



Jeff Dudek

"I'm thankful for my new Firebird."



Steve Naughton

"I'm thankful for supportive friends."

Photos and copy by Jessica Harvey

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Culinary Arts students strut their stuff for the holidays

by Jessica Harvey

With the holiday season approaching, the Culinary Arts Department is offering a multitude of activities, such as pie sales, wine tasting and ice carving.

The Culinary Arts students will set the mood for Thanksgiving by displaying cornucopias made from bread during the week of Thanksgiving. These creations will be displayed in the school cafeteria.

Cornucopias aren't the only creations that will be seen Thanksgiving week.

Students will be selling homemade apple and pumpkin pies at the Joliet craft fair on Nov. 20-21. The fair will be held at the Rialto Square Theatre.

The day after Thanksgiving students will quickly get in gear for the Christmas season. They will be competing in an ice carving competition held on Nov. 23.



Culinary Art students, Cindy Peitha (back) and Samantha Roberson, (front) are carving ice vases.

Photo by Jessica Harvey

Their creations will be displayed at the Joliet Parade in downtown Joliet. They will also

be selling baked goods at the parade.

Another event that will take place this month is the Epicurean Festival of food and wine tasting.

There will be an array of hour devours and wines, and silent auctions will be held throughout the evening.

It will be held in the Joliet

Junior College cafeteria, and the event takes place on Nov. 30, from 7-10 p.m. Tickets are \$40, and the proceeds go to scholarships offered to the Culinary Arts students.

More holiday cheer will take place when the Culinary Arts students partake in the Winter Festival, which is one of the most festive holiday events on campus.

The Winter Festival will take place on Dec. 1. Ice sculptures depicting holiday scenes will be displayed in front of the J Building, and children will be able to play games such as basketball while using basketball hoops made of ice.

Homemade pastries and other baked good will be for sale during the festival. Gingerbread houses made by students will also be on display in the cafeteria.

With everything going on in the Culinary Arts department, you will surely find something that will appeal to your tastes.



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Chef Mike McGreal is demonstrating how to make a vase out of ice.

Photo by Jessica Harvey



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Trick-or-Treaters invade main campus



Happy Thanksgiving to staff, faculty, students and the administration.

If you overindulge, see your Fitness Center professional when you return from break.

The Blazer Staff

by Katie Saieg

Barbara Peterson, the director of JJC's Child Care Center, led a group of 3-5 year-olds on a two-hour route through the college's departments on a Halloween Trick-or-Treating walk.

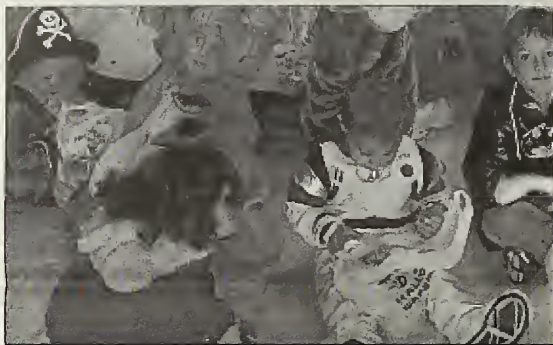
"Going trick-or-treating is about the only thing we do on campus for exposure," said Peterson. She asked permission from the departments to take the children trick-or-treating and all of them welcomed the children and were happy to have them.

Trick-or-treating may be the only activity that the center does throughout the campus, but a lot of people are involved. Each day is filled with plenty of activities and new experiences for the children.

Daily activities for the children include a pre-school morning program, art, music, snack time,

lunch, nap time, and story time. Peterson talks enthusiastically about the "key experiences" that the children are learning every day. These "key experiences" include the child learning to take care of him/her self, asking for what he/she needs, developing social skills and learning when five minutes are up.

Peterson explains how the child learns to share and negotiate to get what he/she wants without confrontation and to "ask." The Child Care Center is located in room B-1001. It is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information contact Barbara Peterson at 280-2280.



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Students get down at BSU's homecoming dance

by Kristin Hulva

The Black Student Union presented the 2001 homecoming dance on Nov. 3 from 7 to 12 p.m. located in Joliet Junior College's cafeteria.

This year's theme of the homecoming dance was "A Time to Remember." Around 200 students attended the dance and ticket prices were eight dollars in advance or ten dollars at the door.

Part of the money collected from this year's dance helped pay for five students on BSU to attend a leadership conference at the University of Illinois. These students attended the conference on Nov. 2 and Nov. 3.

The conference educated the five students on leadership skills, how to promote an African study program and taught students African American history and culture.

There are about 60 people on the BSU roster and approximately twenty active members. Meetings are held every Wednesday at noon on the bridge.

"I feel the Black Student Union is important because it represents the African American stu-

dent body at JJC," said Crystal Edward, member of the BSU. "One of our goals is to make Black History month not just in February, but every month," added Edward.

Chris Parker's job on the executive board of the BSU is to get the word out about upcoming

"Being in a club gives a student a sense of involvement with the campus community and to connect with others. This is a way to be apart of a group."

-Mildred Holmes

events sponsored by the BSU and to promote the Africa American culture.

Parker also said that other goals of the BSU is to get more full time minority faculty members at JJC and to increase security on campus.

"Any student who wants to be educated on African American culture is welcomed to join the

BSU," said Parker.

On Oct. 30 at 12:30 on the bridge, Edward Johnson and Dean Townsend spoke about young men of color and why they are so "at risk." This dialogue entitled "The Miseducation of the African American Male" was sponsored by the BSU.

Around Christmas BSU will sponsor a bat and glove drive. Also look for bake sales, another event sponsored by BSU.

"Our primary goal is to promote black history and cultural not only to JJC students, faculty, and staff but to the community at large," said Mildred Holmes, advisor of the BSU. "Being in a club gives a student a sense of involvement with the campus community and to connect with others. This is a way to be apart of a group," added Holmes.

The BSU was first organized in 1969 on JJC campus. The club started again in 2000. This multicultural organization's goal is to promote awareness and appreciation of the African American community. Holmes stressed that any one is welcome to join. When there are activities everyone should take the opportunity to learn about another culture.



Students dance at homecoming on Nov. 3 in JJC's cafeteria.

Photo by Chris Parker

Thanksgiving recess begins on Wednesday Nov. 21 at 5 p.m. and goes until Nov. 25.

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- * Find someone who has it and laugh



Bubba Sparxxx
Dark Days, Bright Nights

by Matt Packard

From within the convulsing walls of his first single (Up!)!, Bubba call-out all of the emcees who have been doing nothing but "spittin' booty-chatter." As it turns out, what truly matters to Bubba is alcohol, parties, oh, and booty. So, much like the rappers he is trying to knock off of the charts, Bubba's not really rapping ABOUT anything. What he does offer is a perspective that is long overdue in hip-hop.

Bubba is a white hillbilly from Athens who knows how to weave a flow. He lays his impressive rhyming and phrasing over Timbaland's catchy (if occasionally dry) beats. He serves up some fresh new terms for the dis-tending hip-hop vernacular. The most notable is that he replaces the standard reference to women with "Bettes." When the album closes out, you will have heard a few potential hits and fresh rhymes. If Bubba Sparxxx ever uses his skills to say anything meaningful, he could be a legend.



Ryan Adams
Gold
*** 1/2
by Matt Packard

In some circles, Ryan Adams is the critics' darling. In others, he's another Van Morrison rip-off. "Gold" includes vocal contributions from an artist who has faced these charges in Adam Duritz (Counting Crows). If you welcome the rootsy, countrified, rock of the aforementioned bands, "Gold" will fit right into your collection. It is a well-produced exercise of harmonica, piano, and acoustic guitar. This album would have had 4.0 ten hits 8 years ago. Today, this classic clothes on the floor, bottle on the cheap, faded jeans artist has no place on pop radio.

Adams has said that he doesn't see anything cool about singing "Can you take me higher." To 30,000 people while wearing black leather pants. He may not be (or aspire to be) the "boy" that Bonnie Raitt and others have claimed him to be. Still, he represents an important community of music lovers who are comfortable half way between art and joy. Keep an ear on him.



Slayer
God Hates U All
*** 1/2
by Jason Baloun

Slayer follows a formula when creating their music. Loud vocals, heavy guitar riffs, and fast solos make up the 13 tracks of their most recent album.

Their motto seems to be if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Lead singer Tom Araya sings about hating religion and hating people. What more could a metal fan ask for? With titles like "Disciple," "New Faith," "Cast Down," and "Exile" listeners know what they're getting themselves into, and we like it.

Kerry King is one of the most under rated guitar players making music today. He's fast, original, and good. In a time when metal doesn't get much radio play, Slayer shows that they couldn't care less. There isn't one song on "God Hates U All" that is "radio friendly", and these masters of metal wouldn't want it any other way.

Slayer will be playing a show at the Aragon Ballroom on November 21st. They put on a great show, I suggest you check these guys out.



Dizzy Dsbourne
Down to Earth
* 1/2
by Jason Baloun

There comes a time in every musician's life when they have to sit back in their mansions, with their millions of dollars, and consider retirement. Dizzy has come to this point in his life.

"Down to Earth" is Dizzy's eighth solo studio release, and it could very well be his last. The first track, also the first single, "Gets me Through" is the best song on this CD. It's kind of ironic because in this song Dizzy is talking to the fans and telling them that he isn't what they think he is, but that the energy from the fans is what keeps him going. With a CD like this, that energy may be running out.

"Dreamer" is a slow ballad that sounds like a John Lennon song gone bad. The CD gets worse and is often repetitive. Guitar player Zak Wylde needs to learn how to play different parts of the guitar to keep this music flowing. Keep your finger close to the fretboard because you'll find yourself skipping more tracks than you listen to.

Ozzy's on tour with Rob Zombie and Mudvayne. The Merry Mayhem Tour hits the Allstate Arena on December 6th. For fifty bucks a ticket, Ozzy better play a greatest hits set.



Van Morrison
Tupelo Honey

by Tim Daly

Very rarely in today's pop music scene do listeners get the chance to enjoy strong instrumental accompaniment along with story weaving, toe tapping lyrics. For an introduction to this kind of music, look no further than Van Morrison's album "Tupelo Honey".

"Tupelo Honey" is one of Morrison's early works, digitally remastered on CD for today's new listeners. "Tupelo Honey" introduces classics such as *Wild Night*, which was recently remade by John Mellencamp, and also has favored favorites like *Old Woodstock* and *Like a Cannonball*.

Morrison's trademark voice blends well with his twangy guitar riffs which are especially powerful on this album.

"Tupelo Honey" is a nice change of pace from today's hard guitar driven anthems and electronic sounding dance music that has flooded most radio stations. Morrison does a nice job of interchanging uplifting, upbeat songs with powerful and sentimental heart wrenchers. "Tupelo Honey" is good stuff.

Macbeth headlines Fine Arts Department's smorgasbord of entertainment

by Misty Boss

On Nov. 8, the Fine Arts Department will have their first showing of their latest production, *Macbeth*. *Macbeth* is the second of four productions the department will put on in the 2001-2002 school year. In addition to these four productions will be two other shows, one each semester.

"The Vagina Monologues," is a show that is currently looking for participation. The department asks for all students and others to

participate. Women will be the only ones cast but men are much needed for the technical theatre.

Also going to be put on is a show called, "The Reindeer Monologues." This show will not begin production until later on in the season. However, the search is already on for onstage talent.

This year the series of productions is called "A Season of Desires." The centennial season features productions which explore universal goals and ambitions: the wish to master a

skill...the lust for power...the yen for freedom...and the longing for respect. This is the description of the season given by the fine arts department.

The last two productions of the year are going to take place during the spring semester. The first of which is called, "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum." This will take place Feb. 28 and March 1-3 and will be directed by Clay Kirkland. "The Miss Firecracker Contest," will be directed by Nicki Blowers and

will be held April 18-21.

The Fine Arts Department takes all of their productions very seriously. According to some of the performers they are, "nervous but very excited," about the upcoming performance of *Macbeth*. The dedication to the productions ranges from students to staff.

"I eat, sleep, and breathe *Macbeth*," said Nicki Blower, a member of the JJC staff.

It is encouraged that students and others attend the productions that are planned for the year. With the shows ranging from tragedy to comedy, there should be something for everyone.

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JUCO jazz band jumps, jives, and jams

by Lindsey Miller

Did you ever play in your high school jazz band? Do you look at your dust-covered instrument case and wonder if you can still play those licks? The JJC Jazz Band is the perfect place for you to find out! The Joliet Junior College Jazz Band director, Chuck Morgan, says that the band is, "Open to all JJC district students that play typical jazz instruments." The band plays once a week on Wednesday night from 7-9:45 P.M. and you will receive one hour of class credit for the first three semesters you play.

The band, which is usually, made up of around twenty-five musicians, play all types of jazz music. "We try to play all genres

of jazz," Morgan says, "Standard, Big Band, Dixie Land, and Modern." Although the band did not make any tours this semester, they have in the past to Kansas City University, local high schools, and the Elmer Tour Festival. The possibilities of future tours are still there, but none are planned at this time.

The band plays semi-annual concerts at the JJC main campus. The concert dates for this year are Friday, Nov. 30 and May 3, both at 7:30 p.m. Both concerts are held in the main campus auditorium and ticket prices are \$5 for adults and \$4 for JJC students and senior citizens.

Tickets may be purchased at the box office the night of the concerts.

For this upcoming concert in November, two of the songs to look forward to are the classic jazz ballad, "Beir' Green", featuring trombone player, Gary Kurbis, and "Channel One Suite", featuring Jeff Thompson on saxophone. There are also many other fine tunes that will be played that night, each showing off the band's talent to play all types of jazz.

If you're interested in joining the jazz program next semester, the concert would be the perfect place to see what the band is about. Even if you just like jazz music take a night away from the upcoming final's stress and boilday rush, and enjoy a night of jazz provided by the skilled members of the JJC Jazz Band.

HOROSCOPES

by Matt Packard



Sagittarius: Life will begin to resemble a fairy tale. You would be the beast.



Gemini: Do not take "No." for an answer. But, you might want to take "I'm calling the police" for an answer.



Capricorn: You're not one to cry over spilled milk, but 700 gallons all over your car will come as a shock.



Aquarius: From my Philosophy 101 notes: "Acl upon a maxim which involves its own universal validity." I suppose the magazine will do.



Pisces: You'll make quite an impression on the office. It will be in the shape of your SUV.



Aries: Your boyfriend will treat you to an evening of surprises and romance. Just without all that stupid romance.



Taurus: You will continue to climb the corporate ladder. You will continue to wash the corporate windows. Then, you might drink some beer on the roof.



Libra: Remember that all that glitters is not gold, especially in the dance clubs where all that glitters is usually trash.



Scorpio: Your relationship with your girlfriend will grow rapidly, as will your little debt problem.

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TELEVISION REVIEW

by Matt Sheehan

Drama is part of our everyday lives. From a car crash to a death in the family to the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001, suspense, emotion, and conflict surround us all. And since Sept. 11, television has changed dramatically. *Saturday Night Live*, known for poking fun at every aspect of the government, has eased its political mockeries, including the complete omission of all George W. Bush jokes.

The Agency, a CBS dramatic thriller involving the CIA and their anti-terrorist actions, was thought to be the show to beat *Now*, with the way the country is emotionally and physically, that show has been all but gutted from the schedule.

But now another show, *24*, will attempt to calm those fears and insecurities. *24* is the best show of the year and the best new show in recent memory.

24 stars Kiefer Sutherland, film actor and son of acting legend Donald Sutherland, stars as Jack Bauer, a government counterterrorism agent. Automatically, you should be able to figure out why this show could have been stilled or even canceled before the airing of its first episode. The basic concept for the show is that one season takes place over a span of 24 hours, with each episode lasting one hour in real time.

In the premiere, Bauer is con-



Kiefer Sutherland, center, is surrounded by co-stars for Fox's new hit, *24*. The show depicts one 24-hour period in the life of federal agents and a presidential hopeful who is the target of an assassination attempt.

tacted at midnight by fellow agent Nina (Sarah Lively) to report to headquarters for a briefing by their superior. What complicates things is Bauer's troubled teenage daughter Kimberly (Elisha Cuthbert) has sneaked out of the house with a friend to go party and do other naughty things with two college guys.

While Bauer and his wife Terri (Leslie Hope of CBS' *The District*) worry as to the whereabouts of their daughter, Jack needs to report for the briefing.

According to Bauer's superior, someone wants to assassinate Senator David Palmer (Dennis Haysbert), the first African-American to have a real shot at becoming President. Bauer also learns that someone on the inside may be trying to leak information or complicate the Palmer situation, and Bauer must be the one man to find this mole.

Then, Jack finds out from his wife that she is with a man who says that he is the father of Kim's friend. Jack is about to leave to

meet up with his wife when the agency is notified of a plane exploding while in the air on its way to Los Angeles.

What makes this interesting is that the man the audience believes was hired to kill Palmer was on that plane. Much to his ignorance, the woman he sits next to him does two things: 1) helps him join the "Mile-High" Club and 2) is the mastermind of the plane explosion. She wires the emergency door with plastic explosives and "ejects" out with a parachute. As

she accelerates toward Earth at 9.81 m/s², the plane explodes above her. Finally, the clock ticks to 1 a.m.

The *Now* 13 episode will started at 1:00:01 a.m. and continue to... well, you can figure that one out.

That final scene is what complicated the promotion and execution of the show after what has happened in our country and our world recently.

After Sept. 11, Fox cut all promos showing that scene. Edited commercials show the scenes in a much-scaled down version. But instead of people not watching it because of their fears of reality, they should sit back and enjoy *24* of the good guys beating the bad guys.

What makes *24* so unique and exciting is the use of the screen. When someone makes a phone call, the screen splits into four boxes, two black, one of the caller and one of the receiver. And the use of the clock ticking down before every commercial break is the great use of digital numerals put to work. The cinematography makes it look more like a movie than a television show. The acting and dialogue is phenomenal, and I believe that *24* will be the show to beat at next year's Emmy Awards.

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Football team wins conference title, prepares for bowl

by Tim Daly

The players on Joliet Junior College's football team have paid their dues. After putting in the hours in the off season and looking like a sure thing for the conference championship, players have had to watch as an administrative decision saw their stellar season go down the tubes with a forfeit.

On Nov. 18, at 3 p.m. the Wolves will see all of their work payoff with a Pepsi Bowl appearance at the University of Northern Iowa Dome in Cedar Falls Iowa.

The Wolves will square off against North Iowa Falls Community College in the bowl game. The Trojans look to be tough, with the fourth best passing game in D-III (202 yard avg.).

"Their a good program, they have some tough kids. . . their QB and safety are both serious D-I prospects," said defensive coordinator Joe Roman.

The Trojans hold the number six spot in the national rankings, two spots ahead of the Wolves.

The Wolves, hot off winning a conference championship against conference rival Harper College, are peaking at the right time. After dropping their first game of their season to a tough Grand Rapids team the Wolves have been rolling, winning their last nine games.

Defensively the Wolves will be tested by Trojan quarterback Ben Dougherty. Dougherty has passed for over 9,000 yards, and has shown excellent mobility, scrambling for 83 yards this season. The extra week between the games should help the defense prepare for the Trojans.

"The extra week was good for us, we've gotten to work more on the X's and O's to help prepare for these guys. . . well be ready" said Roman.

Offensively the Wolves have been spectacular behind a bruising

offensive line and the deceptively shifty moves of running back Craig Duppung. Duppung and his offensive line have quietly crept to a 152 yard rushing avg. Quarterback T.J. Grisel is penciled in to start despite the return of quarterback Kevin Boyd from the injured list.

JJC found several players taking home individual awards this season. Running back Craig Duppung was unanimously voted the National Community College Player of the Year. Duppung is one of the nation's top JUCO rushers with 1,209 yards and 15 touchdowns.

Also making the All-Conference team for the Wolves were sophomore cornerbacks Charles Frazier and Terrence Tutt, sophomore linebacker Sam Gronewald, sophomore defensive lineman Jared Sowders, freshman wideout Kelvin Hayden and freshman offensive guard Jake Agamy.



Wolves take the field at Joliet Memorial Stadium.

Photo courtesy of Sports Information Department

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Men's basketball team jumps out to a fast start, at 2-0

by Tim Daly

Joe Kuhn, head coach of the men's basketball team expects successful teams. So the JJC basketball team's quick 2-0 start this season is no surprise to anyone that is associated with JJC's basketball program.

The Wolves didn't even dull their claws during their 106-56 ravaging of the Cardinal Strich Junior Varsity on Friday, Nov. 2. JJC pounced on top of Cardinal Strich

by jumping to a 58-21 lead at half time and never letting up. Leading the scoring for the Wolves was freshman Gordon Morgan, with 24 points. Morgan was stellar, going 11-15 from the floor with five assists. Offensively Morgan had plenty of help from his teammates, with four different wolves scoring in double figures.

The Wolves helped add to their winning streak by notching another win against Morton. The

second win of the Wolves season came against much tougher opposition, with JJC stealing an 81-76 victory from Morton. As if following a script from their first game, Morgan led the scoring and the team placed four players in the scoring column with double figures.

JJC made its home debut at Wills Gymnasium Nov. 13 against Lake Michigan College at 7p.m., after the paper went to print.



Dustin Smith, the Wolves' 2000 point guard, will be hard to replace
Photo Courtesy of Sports Information Department

Athletes of the Issue

T.J. Grisel
Football



Grisel helped his offense rack up an unheard of 498 yards of offense in JJC's 41-21 victory over conference rival Harper College. Grisel scored on a 1-yard TD run and passed for 183 yards. The sophomore QB will lead the Wolves into their upcoming bowl appearance against the North Iowa Area Community College Trojans on Sunday Nov. 18.

Annemarie Dell'Aquila
Women's Basketball



The tough post play of the Wolves' 5-10 transfer from Northern Michigan University has been one of the bright spots on this year's squad. Dell'Aquila notched eight rebounds against Parkland in the team's opener, and followed up with a seven board performance against Morton. Dell'Aquila is a Reed-Custer High School graduate.

Gordon Morgan
Men's Basketball



Morgan leads the men's basketball team in scoring with a 21.5 point average in the team's first two games. The 5-9 freshman guard posted a team high 24 points in the Wolves blasting of the Cardinal Strich Junior Varsity 106-56. The men's basketball team will play their next home game Tues. Nov. 13 against Lake Michigan College. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

Lady Wolves finish second in the nation

by Tim Daly

The Joliet Junior College Women's Volleyball Team saw their juggernaut of a season come to an end this month. The Lady Wolves rode the momentum of their 29 match winning streak into a national championship match against Central Lakes Community College, but ran out of steam in the championship match. Central Lakes Community College of Minn. Defeated Joliet 30-26, 26-30, 30-21, 30-26.

The national tournament appearance by Joliet Junior College is the school's first in 23 years.

Lady Wolves named to the event's prestigious all-tournament team were freshman outside hitter Carrie Hickok, sophomore setter Rhannon Burleson, outside hitter Alyson Beasley and middle hitter Crystal Hoinacki.

Central Lakes, who has won the national championship for the past two years, also placed an astounding four of their players on the all-tournament team. Central Lakes took home tournament MVP honors for sophomore Dana Dickinson.

"Central Lakes is a good team," said Wolves coach Kim McKay.

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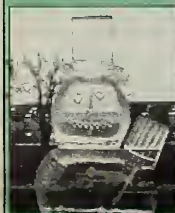
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Wolves football player nominated for work on children's TV program

by Lisa Widlowski

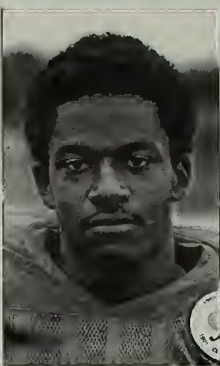
As if leading the JJC Wolves football team in interceptions wasn't enough, freshman Evan Allen-Gesseese earned himself a nomination for a local Emmy as well.

Evan was the host of a children's show called Tech Knows KIDS on WJVS. This Chicago based program aired all over the Midwest. Evan explained that it was a show about technology aimed at children age five to sixteen who were minorities, mainly Hispanic and African-American. These kids sometimes don't receive the same technology experience that other children may get.

The show was actually submitted for nomination for the Emmy by Evan's mother who works for WTTW in Chicago. Out of about one hundred Midwest children's shows submitted, only four were nominated. What an accomplishment just to get nominated! "I didn't think I would be

nominated for an Emmy," said Evan. He did not expect to win the Emmy, mainly because Bozo was one of his competitors. Surprisingly enough, neither Evan nor Bozo took home the Emmy. The other two who were nominated actually tied for the award in the Outstanding Achievement for Children's Programming category.

At the actual ceremony, Oct. 27 at the Fairmont Hotel in



Evan Allen-Gesseese

were re-played many times on WJVS over the course of several months. Evan couldn't help but

admit to checking that station every time he turned on the television, just to see if his show was airing.

"It was the first time I had been nervous in a very long time," Evan explained. Evan claimed he doesn't even "get butterflies" before games.

The taping of the first show took about twelve hours. Tech Knows KIDS was a three episode series. These three shows

got a had rap for being all hawn and no brains. But, like anyone else, many football players excel in other areas, too.

Evan hopes one day to become a television sports reporter.

"[You] gotta have a back up plan" explains Evan, who wants to play football as long as he can before embarking on his long-range career as a reporter.

School code of conduct gets a new look

by Scott Bessler

Joliet Junior College student code of conduct is being revised, and the committee in charge will be seeking approval of its updated and amended policies.

The code of conduct, as found in the student handbook/weekly planner, has existed, unchanged, since 1993.

"[It] finally needed to be changed," said Pati Fine, student dean and head of the Code of Conduct Rewrite Committee.

As Fine explained, the Code of Conduct is also Board of Trustee policy. The board must first approve any changes to the

code.

The Code of Conduct Rewrite Committee was formed last year. It has been in the process of revising the code since then.

"There are many different dimensions that need to be covered in this updated code," said Fine.

Fine explained that student conduct and responsibilities in regard to use of such new additions as the Cyber Café need to be covered.

Since the process of revising and approving the Code of Conduct is such a complicated process, one goal of the current committee is to broaden the ability

of the board to interpret the code. This would allow for more flexibility in effectively implementing discipline, as deemed necessary by the situation.

Another goal of the committee is to better inform students of the code of conduct. One way of achieving this would be through the distribution of flyers.

"Unfortunately, students don't find out about the code of conduct until they do something wrong," said Fine. The revised policy is currently in a massive stage of review and feedback, according to Fine.

The committee sent out comment sheets to students, staff and

faculty. This was to find out if the proposed policy adequately covered the necessary areas and to know if "we were on target with what is current," as far as problems on campus being addressed, said Fine.

The Student Alliance recently requested an extension on the deadline of the revised code of conduct to better analyze the content of the code.

"We're very anxious to get the code approved," said Fine. The proposed student Code Of Conduct should be on the board's agenda for approval in early spring.

Online registration gets mixed reviews by students

by Molly McKeon

On Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 7 a.m., registration began for the spring 2002 semester at JJC. Needless to say, it was a busy day for the registration department, registering an estimated 2,300 students in the first day alone.

Students have four different registration methods to choose from to sign up for their classes. These include registering by phone, by touchtone, personally waiting in line to register and the newest method, online registration.

The online option gives students the ability to sign up for classes independently without the supervision of the registration department. It was also designed to ease the stressful, time-consuming

effort by both the students and the department that registration is often associated with.

According to Terry Maffeo, registration office supervisor, the online option didn't work out as well as the department had planned for the fall semester.

Fact:

An estimated 2,300 students registered in the first day alone. Students have four different registration methods to choose from to sign up for their classes.

"The Internet was not taken advantage of because students didn't know about it," said Maffeo. "It needed to be publicized more."

The online registration also posed a problem with students who were signing up for classes that required a prerequisite. Students needed proof that they had already taken, or were currently enrolled in a prerequisite such as Math 098 or English 101 so that they could sign up for the following class. Their only option was to then wait in line to register so they could show proof of taking that previous class to the registration department. Most students didn't know they had to show that proof, so when they registered online, they were unable to sign up for the courses they needed.

According to Maffeo, students also need to make sure that they are organized and know what classes they are going to take before registering online.

Despite its few problems,

many students found that registering online was very easy to do. Brandi Davis, sophomore, couldn't believe how simple the process was.

"Registering online was really easy and fast," said Davis. "Waiting in that long line was definitely a waste of time."

That long line, however, was part of a technical problem with the touchtone phone registration option. The touchtone option was only available for student use for a few hours in the morning because a virus disabled the system. Students were forced to either register by phone, online, or in person, that resulted in the rather long line inside the school.

Students are still able to register for spring classes in the registration department of J building.

Letter to the editor

What "strange and frightening times" have taught us

by Jason Baloun

We live in strange and frightening times, the likes of which no Americans have ever really lived before.

In the past, when America had an enemy, that enemy had a face, a goal, and we knew where they were. All these things are different now, and America will never be the same.

In the days following the terrorist attacks on the United States,

most people felt overwhelmingly patriotic, which was good, necessary. But there comes a time when you have to wonder why there are countries that hate us. I think the answer, at least in part, is that we are hated because we are capitalists and we are free.

No one should hold these things against us, but another reason may be that our government seems to think that they not only know what is best for us, but what is best for countries throughout the

world.

There are many things Americans can learn from Sept. 11, and one of them is that it's time to stop playing the role of the baby-sitting bodyguard to the world. I understand that foreign relations are important, but our government should not get involved with other countries problems. Buy your oil and screw humanitarian efforts. And now I read in the papers that the United States is not safe if they will deploy a full-fledge ground war yet. Didn't we read something in

our history books about that? Half-assed wars don't end quickly, and they don't provide results.

A large question we have to face is what does it mean to be an American? It means that we all have to use our common sense, however difficult that may seem to most people.

Example 1: If you work in a large government building and you notice a suspicious looking man (but be sure not to use racial profiling because it's not politically correct) and he is doing suspicious things, call someone. This

might not sound very specific, but if the FBI doesn't have to be specific then neither do I.

I also have a second example, which I will cleverly label, Example 2: If you work at a Dunkin' Donuts and you notice a white substance on the floor underneath the powdered doughnuts, you really don't need to call the police.

Be cautious, not crazy. Be safe, not stupid. And most importantly be Americans... not Americans...

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Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not

necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

Our View

Christmas is coming during a strange time in the world. Following the events of Sept. 11, people are following different routines than they are accustomed to. Flying to meet family is out of the question for some people, the economic slowdown has made some people reevaluate their shopping plans, and things are just generally different this year.

Regardless of what is happening around the world, we at the blazer ask that our readers make an effort to remember what is important to them this Christmas. No matter what else is going on, the things that are important to us should not have changed. Christmas is an especially good time to reflect on our priorities and set our sights on "the reasons" for the season.

The people in our lives are important to us. How different would our lives be if we were to lose family and friends? If the events of Sept. 11 have taught us anything, it is that unexpected tragedies are a reality that we must face. This scary realization puts a

higher premium on the time we have with the people who are important to us.

The future is important to us. Another stark realization that the recent terrorist attacks have brought to us is that our future is uncertain. Things may not be as expected when we wake up in the morning. This can be a very unsettling feeling. As a society all that we can do is to try even harder to make a difference. Making a difference can be as big as starting a canned foods collection for the poor or as small as opening a door for someone. However we try to make things better, we should make a conscious and consistent effort to positively affect the world that we live in.

No matter what is going on in the world around you, figure out what is important to you and appreciate it. Take nothing for granted and embrace every day as a chance to enjoy the world around you; it's the only one we've got.

Looking to make some extra cash this Spring?

If you're interested in earning extra money for the spring semester, a Mokena student is looking for a ride to and from JJC's main campus on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 to 11, Tuesday 11 to 12:15 and Thursday 10 to 12.

Contact Lisa at 708-479-964 if making money for helping someone get to school sounds like a good idea to you.

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Graduation office helps students earn their degrees

by Molly McKeon

Getting a college degree can be an exciting yet difficult part of one's life as a college student. Successful classes, strenuous homework, these are all things that go along with successfully completing your degree.

The graduation office at Joliet Junior College takes a part in helping students obtain their degree to reach their goals.

Supervised by Bobbie Lara, the graduation office is in charge of processing graduation applications as well as organizing and

presenting the graduation ceremony annually.

Students have the option to apply for graduation three times during the course of the year. December, (fall) May, (spring) and August, (summer) are the three and only months a student may apply for. May is also the only month that a graduation ceremony is held. The other two months do not offer ceremonies, but students are able to receive their diploma through the mail, free of charge.

Students are able to apply for their degree or certificate if they

are currently enrolled in their final semester of coursework at JJC. They may do so by applying on the Kiosk terminals located in various areas throughout the school.

Students also must make sure that an Admissions/Student Data Information form is filled out and on file in the admissions office. Any transcripts from previous colleges or universities or high school transcripts or GED certificates verifying a student's passing of the U.S. Constitution test must also be on file before one can apply.

In addition, students must also have completed the courses required to earn the given degree or certificate. They also must have completed a minimum of 64 semester hours of credit for a degree, 4-29 semester hours noted for the certificate of completion or 30-64 semester hours for the certificate of achievement. Students also must have earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 ("C"). Finally, the student must have discharged all financial obligations to the college and have no restrictions on his or her record.

Once the student applies for his or her degree or certificate, the application is then sent for evaluation and must be approved by Denis Wright, vice president of academic affairs. According to Lara, the evaluation process generally takes from four to six weeks to be completed and the student will be notified with an approval or denial letter by mail.

May is the only month that offers a graduation ceremony for students to participate in. Although participation is not required, it is often encouraged. The ceremony is usually held at Joliet Junior College, but the location for this year's ceremony is currently being changed because

the JJC gym can no longer accommodate the large number of students participating and guests attending.

Fact:

Students have the option to apply for graduation three times during the course of the year, December, (fall) May, (spring) and August (summer). May is the only month that a graduation ceremony is held.

"Right now the department is trying to make a decision about this year's ceremony," says Lara. "Our options are either to have two separate ceremonies at different times here at JJC, or to have the ceremony at another location big enough to accommodate us all."

The only fee charge for students to participate is a \$15 cap and gown fee. The graduation ceremony is generally held on the Friday of finals week.

Question of the Issue: What was your favorite Christmas present ever?



Jessica Pulliam

"My favorite Christmas present was a boombox because it was my own and not my brother or sister's."



Shannon Smith

"My favorite Christmas present was 'My Size Barbie' because I liked dolls, and it was like a friend to me."



Robert Peterson

"One year when I was nine years old my Aunt gave me a bowl and a spoon with Tony the Tiger on it. IT was grrreat."



Jessica Gray

"My favorite Christmas present was an 'Easy Bake Oven' that I melted my Barbie doll in."



Jaime Korwin

"My absolute favorite Christmas present was this black coat. Why? Because it keeps me warm in this frigid Joliet weather."



Greg Slivka

"My favorite Christmas present was when I got a bike because it was a great surprise."



Nicolas Hendrickson

"The best present that I ever received was when my family accepted my refusal to participate in Christmas (due to its wasteful and materialistic nature) by excusing me from attending superficial family functions."



Craig Shepherd

"My first real snowboard that got five years ago."



David Winge

"My favorite present was my CD player because it was one of the only things my mom could afford."

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Fine Arts Department, Women's College present feminist play, auditions Jan. 9

by Katie Quealy

Violence against women happens everyday, everywhere. This problem cuts across the lines of race, class, and ethnicity. VDay is a global movement to stop violence against women and girls, and it is making its way to JJC in the form of a theater production. The Fine Arts Department and Women's College will present Eve Ensler's feminist play, "The

na in different cultures. The play is both funny and serious while exploring the various experiences of women worldwide.

The program promotes awareness of sexual violence and raises money for existing antiviolence organizations. The VDay College Campaign allows colleges across North America to present "The Vagina Monologues" for free. In return, the colleges are required to donate the proceeds to a local organization focused on preventing violence against women.

JJC is participating in this program with the help of Dr. Roya Falahi, the director of the Women's College at JJC, and Anissa Jones, the director of Student Services. Both feel that the Monologues can act as an important tool in teaching about gender inequality.

"Many people, including students, don't want to talk about these matters," said Falahi. "By naming the problem, we can address the cause."

Jones is especially supportive of the monologues and hopes the production will give female students a chance to talk about their own experiences of gender inequality.

"Many of the young women here face these problems every day. They deal with sexual harassment, the constant threat of rape, and discrimination everyday," Jones said.

The production will also offer JJC students a chance to confront the issue of violence against women, particularly on college campuses. Several of the monologues deal with sexual harassment and date rape, experiences that often occur within the college setting. Both Falahi and Jones believe that the presentation of these issues will open up discussion on such experiences.

Several workshops are planned for the weeks leading up to the production. Students discussed their experiences with gender and violence in a panel discussion last Friday. Two brown bag lecture series will be held in January to discuss the VDay organization and the actual production of "The Vagina Monologues."

The VDay organization requires the production to be student-oriented with student directors and cast. Auditions will be on Jan. 9. All proceeds of the presentation will go to an organization in the Will County area that assists women and children who are victims of sexual abuse and assault.

News Briefs

Student Alliance: Meetings are held every Thursday at 3 p.m. at the north end of the bridge on the main campus. Any student is encouraged to come to the meetings to voice his or her concerns.

Fine Arts Department: The JJC Choral will perform its annual Winter Concert on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 3:00 p.m. in the theatre on the main campus. Special guests include accompanist Tom Secor and a string quartet from the Illinois Chamber Symphony. The concert is open to the public and admission is free. For more information call 280-2223.

The JJC Choral is looking for new members for the Spring 2002 Semester with basic music-reading ability and/or previous singing experience to perform in its April concerts. The concert program will include vocal jazz, folk and classical selections. Rehearsals will be every Tuesday from 7:00-9:45 p.m. in K-1003 beginning Jan. 8. For more information contact Philip Spencer at 280-2225.

The JJC Chamber Singers will perform its Madrigal Dinner Feast on Friday, Dec. 7 at 6:30 at the Remembrance Center, 214 North Ottawa Street, Joliet, Ill., in the great hall. Special guests include the JJC Brass Quintet. Ticket prices for this event are \$36 per

person with all proceeds going to music scholarships. For tickets call 280-2223.

The JJC Percussion Ensemble will perform its Winter Concert on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the theatre on the main campus. Special guests will include the Channahon Junior High School Percussion Ensemble. The event is open to the public and admission is free.

The JJC Art Faculty will present a gallery exhibit of their works until Dec. 14 in the Laura A. Sprague Gallery on the second floor of the J Building. The gallery is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Office of Student Services and Activities: Peers Promoting Wellness will offer free neck and back massages on Friday, Dec. 7, at the bridge.

The American Freedom Organization: The AFO is presenting a concert entitled *Rock Against Hunger* on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the theatre on the main campus. The bands playing include Tarnish, Active Voice, Armistice, Way To Go Maurice and Quarters Only. Attendees are asked to bring a canned good as an admission charge.

Vagina Monologues," in February.

The Monologues are based on Ensler's series of interviews with women around the world regarding their experiences in gendered societies. "The Monologues" specifically target female sexuality and the significance of the vagi-

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Annual poinsettia sale for holiday season in full swing

by Andre Parham

The day after Thanksgiving at JJC marked the beginning of the annual poinsettia sale for the college.

Every year the operators of the JJC greenhouse sell poinsettias and other holiday related items to staff, faculty, students, and area residents. The poinsettias are planted in August so that they are fully bloomed by the time of the sale in November and December.

The college's three greenhouses are located next to Building B near the faculty/student parking lot.

Poinsettias have a unique growing pat-

tern in which they need 12 hours of darkness each day from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15.

In the greenhouse, there is an automatic shade system that works off a timer. When the timer indicates that it is time for the shade, a black cloth is then spread along the ceiling of the greenhouse until all light has been cut out. The shade system changes the greenhouse temperatures about 10 degrees and supplies the poinsettias with the necessary shade that is needed.

Hours at the greenhouse are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday the greenhouse is closed.



All photos by Jessica Harvey



Katherine Ferry, a sophomore at JJC looks at the Poinsettias in the greenhouse.

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Photos by Jessica Harvey



Winterfest brings cheer to main campus

by Jessica Harvey

Holiday cheer filled JJC's main campus on Saturday, Dec. 1 at the college's annual Winter Festival. Activities such as crafts, contests, games and entertainment were offered at the event.

Baking contests, cookie decorating and cooking demonstrations were held throughout the day. A cookie baking contest was open to anyone who had a cookie recipe they wanted to share.

The Culinary Arts Department prepared gingerbread cookies and provided an array of toppings so that people could decorate cookies for \$1. Cooking demonstrations were held by present and past students.

Along with the cooking demonstrations, Culinary Arts students were able to display their ice carving and gingerbread making talents. Ice sculptures decorated the campus entrance and a giant snowman was displayed outside of the cafeteria.

Gingerbread houses decorated the cafeteria, and a silent auction was held for these beautiful creations. The gingerbread houses were certainly something that Culinary Arts students should be proud of.

"I was happy to see people enjoy the work that we put into

our gingerbread homes," said Culinary Arts student Vita Spargo.

The Winter Festival offered more than just food. The craft show provided people with an opportunity to get some holiday shopping done. Vendors offered things such as jewelry, holiday wood carvings, ornaments, clothing, homemade candy and wreaths.

Entertainment was provided by anyone wishing to sing karaoke, the JJC vocal group, the Rockdale School band students also performed at the Winter Festival.

Children were able to participate in activities of their own. Tickets could be purchased for 50 cents to play games such as Pin the Bone on the Doggie, Basketball Shoot and the Lollipop Tree. The games were not only fun, but a portion of the proceeds will go to the American Red Cross' disaster relief fund.

Not only were there activities for children, but there was fun for pets as well. The Veterinary Technology Club held a fundraiser that offered pets the chance to get their pictures taken with Santa for \$5.00. There were also animals up for adoption.

The Winter Festival was a fun-filled event that certainly offered something for everyone.

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Jewel, Garth, Prince's new album releases look to jumpstart artists' sagging CD sales

CD Ratings

- **** Skip class and go buy it
- *** Buy it at later date
- ** Find someone who has it and copy it
- * Find someone who has it and laugh



Jewel
This Way

* 1/2
by Matt Packard

Most of her fans would agree that she was a solid songwriter and a bad poet. ...This was never a problem until people started calling her lyrics poetic. From there, she decided to write an awful book of awful poetry and attempt to turn awful poetry into pop songs. The result: awful. "This Way" is an absolute mess. From sorry attempts at sexy vocals to musical

arrangements that are nothing short of aggravating to listen to, this album is a shame. Jewel is trying far too hard to be artistic, assuming that tunes that are not catchy and lyrics that are vague must be considered artistic. The only head that she's going over with all of this is a steadily distending one with a snaggletooth. "This Way" does have four good songs, however.

Three of them are mediocre versions of fantastic songs from an old repertoire that she has peeled the charm off of. The fourth is the single, "Standing Still." This song is the reason that I was enthusias-

tic about this album's release. Unfortunately, it is the only one of its kind to be found here. It seems that Jewel is, indeed, standing still as an artist. I regret to say that she has little left to offer artistically if her music is going to be "this way."



Garth Brooks
Scarecrow

by Matt Packard

"Scarecrow" is the first good album that Garth Brooks has released. While that is a step down from what we've come to expect from Garth, a good album is a good album.

The last line of the chorus of "Pushing Up Daisies" is worth the album's retail price. It's one of those lines that you can't believe no one has written before.

"Thicker Than Blood" and "Wrapped Up In You" are also quite good.

Another standout is the new obligatory duet with Trisha Yearwood, "Squeeze Me In." This is a perfect demonstration of Garth's decision to settle for simple country songs and step away from the dramatic, explosive, life-changing anthems that have made him a legend.

The only overwhelming song of this nature is the last track ("When You Come Back To Me Again"), which has been around for over a year.

Whether he's toned it down to please critics and colleagues who have questioned his country credibility or simply to relax, the backroads approach works. "Scarecrow" may not add to his legend, but it certainly gives Garth another dimension.



Prince
The Rainbow Children

by Matt Packard

From the colorful packaging to the jazzy mottle, this album is beautiful. There is not one pop song to be found. Each song is a spiritually centered, inspired, smooth fusion of jazz, R & B, and soul. He also lets other musicians sit in on the instruments that he normally monopolizes to give the record a fresh face. Most of the work could be laughed at as easily as it could be absorbed and appreciated.

Like everything else Prince has ever done, it comes down to whether you want to buy into it or not.

If you are a Prince enthusiast, you will love this album for every reason that you love Prince.

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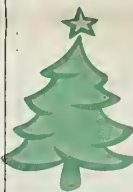
Reminder: If you miss Buyback on the dates above- The JJC Bookstore buys back books "EVERY BUSINESS DAY!!!!"



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We hope everyone enjoys their Christmas break. Blazer staff wishes everyone a Merry Christmas. See you this spring!



Seasons greetings from the staff of The Blazer.

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H O R O S C O P E S

by Matt Packard

Scorpio: You will be required at work to ask "Is there anything else I can do for you?" Customers will make hilarious suggestions including, "Ya got the winning lotto numbers?" and "Can you clean my house?"

Sagittarius: You will make your status known with your sparkly "You Can't Afford Me" shirt, which had to cost at least \$12.

Capricorn: You will bring a strong weak-side post-up presence to a struggling young club.

Aquarius: You will be informed, after much posturing, that your braces do not qualify as "bling-bling."

Pisces: You swear, if one more person writes a song with "Superman" in it, you're going to start getting into smooth jazz.

Aries: You are so glad you ran into that horoscopes boy and asked for his number. The stars see good things for you if you call him. If not, he knows where you live.

Taurus: Due to stress, you will have difficulty sleeping at night. You will make up for this at school.

Gemini: If you keep practicing hard and respect the game, you may one day play in a place like Kraft Velveta Shells N Cheese Stadium.

Cancer: You will carefully explain to the gas station clerk that if you wanted gum, chips or a fountain drink, you would have brought it up to the register already.

Leo: You won't believe the exciting news that is headed your way. And you shouldn't, because it isn't true.

Virgo: If it wasn't for bad luck, you'd have no luck at all. You'd also have a job.

Libra: According to the stars, you will die happy, doing what you love to do. You might want to avoid everything you love for awhile.

8 things to do in a final exam:

1. Bring a pillow and fall asleep (or pretend to) until the last 15 minutes. Wake up, say "oh geez, I better get cracking" and do some gibberish work. Turn it in a few minutes early.
2. Talk the entire way through the exam. Read the questions and debate your answers with yourself out loud. If asked to stop, yell out, "I'm sooooo sure you can hear me thinking!!!" Then start talking about what a jerk the instructor is.
3. Walk in, get the exam, and sit down. About five minutes into it, loudly say to the instructor, "I don't understand ANY of this. I've been to every lecture all semester long! What's the deal? And who the hell are you? Where's the regular guy!?"
4. Fifteen minutes into the exam, stand up, rip up all the papers in very small pieces, throw them into the air and yell out "Merry Christmas!!" If you're really daring, ask for another copy of the exam. Say that you lost the first one. Repeat this process every fifteen minutes.
5. Come into the exam wearing slippers, a bathrobe, a towel on your head, and nothing else.
6. As soon as the instructor hands you the exam, eat it.
7. Every five minutes, stand up, collect all your things, move to another seat, and continue with the exam.
8. Turn in the exam approximately 30 minutes into it. As you walk out start commenting on how easy it was.

Reprinted from December issue of *The Blazer*

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Auditions set for 'A Funny Thing...'

by Misty Salazar

Auditions for the next theater production, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," will be held on Dec. 11 from 2 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., and on Dec. 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. All those wishing to audition must meet at these times in building K1003.

There will be many available roles for actors and actresses. There will be seven primary roles for male performers and two for

females. There will also be spaces available for comic chorus members and courtisans. Specifically, there will be a need for 10 to 12 men and one to ten women in order to put on the production.

Those who do not wish to try out for the play are still asked to come and support the theater by viewing the production in February. Also, help will be needed in building sets after the cast has been set and the production gets underway.



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Harry Potter works his magic on young audiences nationwide

by Matt Sheehan

Just a short time ago, a British woman named J.K. Rowling released a children's book called *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. Immediately, it caught fire, and its popularity spread quickly through England. Soon, the story reached four different books. It didn't take long for the tale of an 11-year old wizard to find its way across the big pond. The same goes for Hollywood.

The film adaptation of the first Rowling novel has done what the books did as well: take the world by storm. Many film studios fought for the rights to the books. It came down to Disney and Warner Brothers. Disney soon had to pull out because of a change of mind among the execs.

Seeing Disney screwed themselves out of one of the most high-



ly anticipated films since the *Star Wars* prequels, Warner Brothers set out to find a director. Many highly revered filmmakers, including Steven Spielberg, were offered the project, but the load of lead hype fell onto the shoulders of director Chris Columbus (*Mrs. Doubtfire*). As millions of preteens waited, Columbus went to work.

What he came up with is one of the greatest book-to-film adaptations of all time. The not-too-dark-but-just-dark-enough sets, the phenomenal acting of the young and old, and the amazingly beautiful score by film composer master John Williams are breathtaking. This is arguably one of the best films of the year.

Superstar Aaliyah gone but not forgotten by fans

By Molly McKeon

It hit home for many people when 22 year old R&B superstar and actress, Aaliyah was found dead on Aug. 25, 2001 in a tragic plane crash shortly after takeoff in the Bahamas.

Aaliyah had been in the Bahamas filming her current video "Rock the Boat" when the tragedy occurred. She left behind a successful career in singing and acting as well as millions of adoring fans that loved and cherished her music along with her funny, down to earth persona.

New York-born and Detroit-raised, Aaliyah Dana Haughton was born on Jan. 16, 1979. Beginning at an early age, Aaliyah displayed a love for singing, dancing and acting. As a pre-teen, she began to audition for school plays, various TV projects, and at age nine, she performed on TV's "Star Search."

In 1992, her uncle, Barry Hankerson, CEO of the artist management company Blackground Enterprises, introduced Aaliyah to R&B artist R. Kelly, where they began work on her debut CD. Released in 1994, titled "Age Ain't Nothing But a Number," Aaliyah scored a top five hit with "Back and forth," the first single off the album, and made a name for herself at the age of 15 with her soulful voice and mysterious beauty.

In 1996, her second album "One in a Million" was released which reached double platinum status and opened up Aaliyah's opportunity in Hollywood. She recorded several songs for movie soundtracks, her biggest, "Are You That Somebody" for "Dr. Dolittle," hit number one on the Billboard Charts when she was only 18 years old.

In the year 2000, Aaliyah made her movie debut in the major motion picture, "Romeo Must Die," expanding her horizons as not only a successful singer, but also as an actress. She was also cast in the sequels, "The Matrix II and III" scheduled for a 2003 release and was nominated for a Grammy for her single "Try Again."

In July 2001, at the age of 22, Aaliyah released her third self-titled album that featured the hit "We Need a Resolution." Only two months later, Aaliyah's life was cut short in the fatal plane crash that left her family, friends and fans in disbelief and sadness.

Aaliyah is just another Hollywood figure to be added to what seems to be the rather long list of celebrity plane crash deaths. Dating back to the 1960's, musical legends Patsy Cline, Jim Reeves and Otis Redding were all killed in plane crashes. In the 1980's, the entire US Olympic boxing team was killed as well as Ricky Nelson, famous singer. In the 1990's Stevie Ray Vaughn, famous blues guitarist was killed along with John Denver, 70's folk singer, and the hard to forget, John F. Kennedy Jr., son of President Kennedy all have lost their lives in an airplane crash.

Aaliyah, who has accomplished so much in her short lifetime will always be remembered by the industry and her fans as a talented, respected artist with a beautiful smile and an uplifting, positive personality. She will be greatly missed.

"I don't think about my success. I'm happy that the work I've done in the past has been very successful. All I can do is leave it in God's hands and hope my fans feel where I'm coming from. I took the time to give my all." -Aaliyah

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Wolves devour Trojans in Pepsi Bowl

by Tim Daly

Joliet Junior College's football team upset the North Iowa Trojans 14-7 in the Pepsi-Cola/Siglet Printing Bowl on Nov. 11.

The win wrapped up a successful season for the Wolves, who finished with a 10-1 season record and a sixth place national ranking. The bowl appearance is the school's first in 20 years.

"(The teams success this season) has already had a huge impact on recruitment for us. We're getting calls and e-mails from guys that want to come play for a winning program," said assistant coach Tom Minnick.

The Wolves defense was the difference in the title match. The Purple People Eaters gobbled up 53 total yards. The Wolves allowed a single rushing touchdown during their final six games.

The Wolves defense recorded four takeaways in the title game with sophomore cornerback Charles Frazier recording a fumble recovery and an interception, sophomore cornerback Terrence Tutt recording an interception, and freshman linebacker Ben Henderson recovering a fumble.

Quarterback T.J. Grisel put the icing on the cake with his game-winning 93-yard touchdown

drive late in the fourth quarter.

After being pinned at his team's 7-yard line by a Trojan punt, Grisel started the offensive drive that would put the winning score on the board, as well as gobble up most of the time on the game clock. Grisel was 6 of 7 passing, spreading out the defense by completing passes to five different receivers.

"It was exciting to get this program back to a bowl game, for the players and coaches as well as the rest of the school," said Minnick. "The girls in the cafeteria told me that it was about time we win a bowl game."

Spirit makes a comeback, cheerleading returns to JJC

Kristin Hulva

The cheerleaders are back after not cheering for the football season. They will be performing every home basketball game starting Jan. 8, ready and waiting to get the crowd and the team members pumped up.

Pam Ethridge, who had been JJC cheerleading advisor for the past 12 years, had to step down at the end of last season as the result of a job change.

She now works at Prairie State in Chicago Heights as the director of their fitness center along with being the coordinator of the Personal Training Certificate Program, which begins in January. Ethridge also teaches a spinning class at JJC.

Ed Sutter is the new advisor for the cheerleading squad. He has taught at JJC for about 28 years. Sutter said he decided to coach this year because there were girls who expressed an interest in wanting a cheerleading squad.

"I have seen some programs fall over the years. When this happens, a section of the student population gets disserved," said Sutter.

He plans to make some changes to the squad this year.

"The squad this year should be something Joliet Junior College can be proud of, but still have fun with," said Sutter.

Last year's "Spirit" team was a combination of cheer and dance, having two girls that could tumble. This year squad wants to make the squad mostly "cheering" and only dance at half time.

"Developing and teaching dances takes a lot of time. This year squad will consist of mostly cheerleading and stunting," said Sutter.

Having the lack of an advisor

caused cheerleading to be down graded from a sport to a club. The main aspects that set apart a sport from a club is that a club has to have at least 10 members and the club has to be open to all students.



Spirit team cheering at a home basketball game last year.

Blazer file photo

Some cheerleaders who were on the squad last year were very upset that cheerleading was being considered a club that would have to be open to even those who might not have any cheerleading talent. Therefore, no one wanted to start up cheerleading for this year's football season.

"It is wrong to make cheerleading a club because it is truly a sport. To be on a cheerleading squad, you have to be athletic. It requires skill, which not everyone has," said Ethridge.

"Cheerleaders work just as hard as any other athlete to maintain their bodies, strength and endurance. Just like any football or basketball team, cheerleaders are just as competitive," said Shannon Murphy who was on cheerleading last year.

"Cheerleading is a sport and not a club," she added.

This year's squad, which will begin cheering for basketball games, already has six girls that are committed. Ideally, Sutter wants eight skilled members, but he will take up to 12 members.

Ethridge found from her past 12 years of coaching that the best squads consisted of six to eight girls. She said that these girls were completely dedicated to cheerleading.

Students who are interested should have previous cheerleading experience, tumble, dance, and have vocal experience. In addition to being able to project your voice while cheering, Sutter hopes to have the girls sing the national anthem at the basketball games.

Sutter said the squad, once picked, will meet once a week, based on everyone's schedule. If interested in trying out for this year's squad, you can contact Ed Sutter at school at 815-280-2339 or at his home number at 815-357-1413.

Any student who is registered for classes at JJC can go out for the squad.

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Lady Wolves fall in National Championship match

by Darin Mattea

The Lady Wolves (51-8) finished the 2001 season ranked second in the nation after competing

earlier this month in Rochester, Minn., in the finals of the NJCAA Division III tournament.

JJC faced a powerhouse in the championship match, the two-time

defending national champion from Central Lakes, Minn., and just fell short.

"There is no shame about the way we played in the champi-

onship match or how we did this season," said sophomore Crystal Hoinacki, who had hugs for her teammates and coaches Kym McKay and Melissa Flanagan as she discussed the past season.

"This has been a wonderful experience. This was the best team that I have played on during my volleyball career."

After finishing the regular season, JJC advanced to the national tournament for the first time in 23 years.

"This was a special season. Every player played well individually and as a team," said McKay, the Region IV Division III Coach of the Year.

"We got to hold our heads up

knowing we gave it our best effort."

Hoinacki was a rock for JJC the past two seasons. She is a two-time all-conference selection and all Region IV Division III pick. She also made the 2001 all-national tournament team.

"Crystal leaves JJC as the all-time leader in kills in school history," said McKay.

The absence of Hoinacki and fellow sophomores Alyson Beasley and Rhiannon Burleson leaves a huge void for McKay and the team to fill.

"I don't know which freshmen are returning," said McKay. Those who do return will have some big shoes to fill.



JJC's volleyball team enjoyed the program's most successful season, finishing as the second best Division III team in the nation.

Photo Courtesy of the Athletic Department

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Athletes of the Issue

Jelani Clark
Basketball



Carrie Pickering
Basketball



The 6'5" sophomore from Kankakee has been a force on the boards this season for the 7-3 Wolves. His team-leading 12 board performances in the title game of the UPS Shootout helped his team defeat Lake County, 92-91.

Clark and his Wolves play their next home game against Moraine Valley, Saturday, Dec. 15, at 3 pm.

The 5'9" Joliet Township grad helped the Lady Wolves defeat Lake County, 61-54, in the opening round of the UPS Shootout with a team-leading 18 points. A three pointer by Pickering helped secure the win for the Wolves.

The Women's next home game is against Moraine Valley, Saturday, Dec. 15, at 1 pm.

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